First batch of armed US troops lands in Zambo

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 1

GMA, JDV confirm MLSA draft exists

By Juliet Javellana and Dona Pazzibugan

DESPITE her spokesperson's denial, President Macapagal-Arroyo admitted yesterday the existence of a draft Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA), reportedly a 10-year military agreement for US troops and vessels to use Philippine support facilities for the duration of their

GMA, JDV/ A19

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
website: www.inq7.net
e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
January 25, 2002 ★ 62 pages / 5 sections / vol.17 / no. 48 P15

MALAMAN PA RIN!!!

Letter from the Editor in Chief

Dear Reader,

Notice anything different today with your favorite newspaper? If you haven't, that's great. A redesign that doesn't look it is the best design of all. In fact, the INQUIRER has been redesigned.

The typeface, the type size, the type fonts have all been changed. And, especially the size of the paper. The INQUIRER you're holding right now is more compact and portable. Because it is slimmer in width by two centimeters. With its resizing comes the redesign which the INQUIRER has not done since 1994. It's about time to catch up with the rest of the world.

With its resizing, the INQUIRER joins more than 300 newspapers in the United States and Canada which have had to slim down.

The changes have everything to do with economics. The cost of newsprint, the type of imported paper that the INQUIRER uses, rises as regularly and spectacularly as the sun. And, paper is the single most expensive expense in the making of a newspaper. But unlike the sunrise, the rising prices are a most unwelcome manifestation of the post-Sept. 11 business doldrums. So, the INQUIRER resizing will allow it to save on newsprint and loads of money that the INQUIRER plans to pour right back into continuing to make the INQUIRER a newspaper that you deserve.

Also, the savings realized from resizing means we need not raise the INQUIRER cover price and advertising rates. Not this year, anyway.

The tools for the INQUIRER redesign (fonts, type size, etc.) were very carefully selected with your comfort zones in mind. Which means you can still read all about it in the INQUIRER. We may be leaner but no less meatier. There is much more to the INQUIRER than its new size can hold. It's bursting at the seams with bigger ideas for a better read. Like, the INQUIRER will say more in less space and less time.

The main concern in redesigning the paper is readability, for it to flow smoothly from page to page like a clean, clear stream conveying news and information you need to know every single day. This is information you need to determine the quality of life you want to live. This is information you need to know to stay free as a sovereign people. Information that empowers. *That* the INQUIRER will not cut down. That is the INQUIRER's vocation. That has not changed.

And this, too: Exciting stays as the operative word as we bring you a slimmer, meaner (but fair, of course) INQUIRER from where we sit to watch the rising of the sun under the trees that we would have saved by cutting down on newsprint.

Thank you for your attention and continuing support.

P.S. The resizing will be done in stages. Between today and the middle of March, some sections of the paper will still be in the old, larger size as the process involves shutting our press lines one at a time for retooling and calibrating. Which is why the redesigned Business Section, for instance, is not yet thinned down. By the middle of March 2002, the conversion of the INQUIRER would have been completed.

How and why we shaped up are detailed in a special supplement on Sunday, Jan. 27, 2002.

Exec in tax scam flees

Lawyer says Chingkoe tipped off

EDWIN BACASMAS

To thank the police for keeping the peace during Edsa II, President Macapagal dances at Camp Crame with Director Edgardo Aglipay.

By Christine Avendaño and Norman Bordadora

THE OWNER of a dozen companies being investigated in connection with a P5.3-billion tax credit scam had left the country hours before a presidential task force filed a plunder case against him and his wife last month.

Faustino Chingkoe reportedly left for Vancouver, Canada, via Hong Kong on a Cathay Pacific flight on Dec. 12, 2001, a day before the Special Presidential Task Force 156 filed with the Office of the Ombudsman the first separate plunder charge against him; his wife Gloria, executives of two oil firms and former task force officials.

The Chingkoe group is responsible for P2.5 billion, or almost half of the fraudulent tax certificates.

Lawyer Ernesto Francisco Jr., who filed an impeachment complaint against Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, yesterday said that somebody had apparently tipped off Chingkoe that a plunder case would be filed against him.

Francisco, quoting "reliable informants," said the Chingkoes were staying in Richmond in Vancouver where they bought a house worth $1 million. Mrs. Chingkoe reportedly fled the country a year ago.

Immigration sources, however, said that there was no record of Faustino Chingkoe leaving the country last month.

The last time he left the country was in February 2001, according to records. He was supposed to have used a South Korean passport on Feb. 24, 2001.

Reports of the couple's flight came a day after Misamis Oriental Rep. Oscar Moreno said that Ombudsman Aniano Desierto had tried to protect the key players in the tax credit scam by filing a flawed plunder case.

Moreno, a House prosecutor in

EXEC/ A19

The case of vanishing suspects

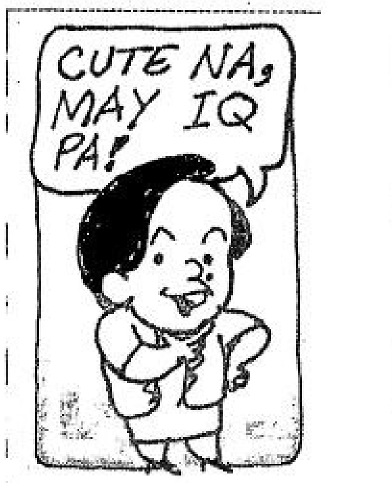
By John Nery

THE NAMES of some principal suspects in the P5.3-billion tax credit scam disappear progressively from official documents of the Ombudsman, an INQUIRER study of the paper trail shows.

The result is that, even if the principals are conclusively identified as criminally liable in the fact-finding reports, they are not included in the preliminary investigation—and thus get off scot-free.

Some of the documents obtained by the INQUIRER are similar to those apparently used by Misamis Oriental Rep. Oscar Moreno as basis for his privilege speech Wednesday, when he accused Ombudsman Aniano Desierto of whitewashing the lat-

THE CASE/ A19


CUTE NA, MAY IQ PA!

GMA asks: Would you rather have IQ or charisma?

By Carlito Pablo and Philippa Rendel

WHAT quality would you rather that the President of the Philippines have—IQ or charisma?

President Macapagal-Arroyo posed this question yesterday before members of the Chinese-Filipino Business Club Inc. in defense of her leadership style amid criticisms that she lacked the "common touch" of her ousted predecessor Joseph Estrada.

"Government is too serious to be handled like show business," Ms

GMA ASKS/ A20

First batch of armed US troops lands in Zamboanga

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The first batch of US soldiers with assault rifles strapped to their backs arrived here yesterday to help prepare for a controversial joint military exercise aimed at crushing the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

A massive US Air Force C-17 transport plane, carrying the armed troops and combat equipment, touched down at the Zamboanga International Airport around 9 a.m.

Another group of 10 US soldiers but without visible weapons flew in later in the day on a smaller C-130 transport plane that also carried several crates of equipment.

"The logistics soldiers are here to support the training between the Philippine and the US soldiers," US Lt. Col. Steve Woods, spokesperson for the exercise dubbed "Kalayaan-Aguila 2002," told newsmen.

The C-17 cargo plane tried but failed to land at the Edwin Andrews Air Base that has only a six-inch-deep runway. It was diverted to the Zamboanga International Airport that has 12-inch-deep runway.

"Had it landed, the Edwin Andrews runway would have cracked," said Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, chief of the military's Southern Command based in Zamboanga City.

Cimatu and other city residents were awed at the massive size of the C-17 plane.

"It's the first time I've seen a C-17. It is bigger than a Boeing 747 but smaller than a C-5 Galaxy," he said.

The 13 armed soldiers in combat fatigues and helmets sweated heavily under the tropical sun as they unloaded a Hummer jeep, a

FIRST/ A20

Gov't assures Senate on terms of engagement

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE UNITED States will not strike back at the Philippines if any American soldier gets killed or kidnapped during the RP-US "Balikatan 02-1."

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez and Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes aired this assurance yesterday at the Senate public hearing on the issue of the conduct of the joint military exercise.

The two officials were responding to questions posed by Senators Manuel Villar and Joker Arroyo on the Philippines' obligation to the United States in the event that its soldiers get killed or kidnapped during the war games.

Villar said that while Washington had repeatedly claimed that American troops were here only for training, this posture might

GOV'T/ A20

DENNIS SABANGAN

TOO BIG to be accommodated at a military Air Force base, the C-17 Globemaster III, the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft of the US military, lands at the Zamboanga International Airport on Thursday to unload 13 soldiers, a jeep, boxes and crates of rifles.

High-caliber officers on top of 'war games'

By Carlito Pablo

THE TWO OFFICERS who will supervise the training of Filipino troops in fighting the Abu Sayyaf are as high-caliber as they come.

No less than the chief of the US Special Operations Command in the entire Pacific—Brig. Gen. Donald Wurster of the US Air Force—is leading the American contingent.

From his base at Camp H.M. Smith in Hawaii, Wurster exercises "operational control of in-theater and augmenting special operations forces" assigned to the US Pacific Command. These include the US Special Forces, from which 160 soldiers will be deployed in Basilan, the main theater of operations against the Abu Sayyaf.

Wurster's Filipino counterpart, Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Teodosio, is

HIGH-CALIBER/ A20

Second FRONT PAGE

KONG SAAN
TAHIMIK

Nur to be tried in Laguna

SC orders courthouse built inside police camp

MISUARI

By Norman Bordadora

THE SUPREME Court yesterday approved the transfer of ex-Gov. Nur Misuari's trial for rebellion from Jolo, Sulu to Calamba, Laguna.

"To conduct the trial in a place where witnesses will not safely be at liberty to reveal what they know would make a mockery of a judicial proceeding," read the SC resolution, in obvious reference to the problems a Jolo trial would bring.

The trial, the Supreme Court ruled, should be held in Calamba "until such time that a temporary courtroom is provided within the premises of (nearby) Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna."

Misuari is currently detained at the police fort, in the bungalow specially built for deposed President Joseph Estrada.

The high court also instructed the Philippine National Police to strengthen security around the camp to ensure the safety of Misuari as well as the residents of Sta. Rosa.

Police spokesperson Chief Supt. Cresencio Maralit said the PNP will be erecting a courthouse in Fort Sto. Domingo for Misuari's trial, pursuant to the Supreme Court ruling.

Maralit said PNP chief Director General Leandro Mendoza issued the order to begin construction on the courthouse yesterday.

Rebellion

Rebellion charges were filed against Misuari for the series of attacks launched by his supporters against the military and civilians in November last year. The attacks, which hoped to forestall elections to pick Misuari's successor, resulted in over 100 deaths.

In its three-page resolution, the Supreme Court in effect denied Misuari's request to be tried in Jolo, where the rebellion case was filed against him.

As for Misuari's requests for access to media, a medical checkup and a laptop computer, the high tribunal passed the decision to the Department of Justice, the Department of Interior and Local Government and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology.

"In accordance with the doctrine of primary jurisdiction, these offices are authorized by law to act on these requests," the court said.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said Misuari's requests would be evaluated fairly.

"Rest assured the interest of all parties in this case shall be taken into account," Perez said.

MNLF threat

Misuari's case was ordered moved to Branch Three of the Regional Trial Court of Calamba, Laguna. Presiding would be Executive Judge Norberto Geraldez.

"In exercising this power in the present case, the Court took careful note of the (Solicitor General's) submission that while 'Misuari and seven of his men were apprehended by government authorities, the rest of the estimated 300 to 400 heavily armed MNLF faction loyal to Misuari remain at large,'" the Supreme Court resolution said.

The threat from the MNLF faction, the high court said, was clearly shown in the attack on the 104th Brigade headquarters of the Philippine Army in Jolo on Nov. 19, 2001. One week later, Misuari's supporters took scores of people hostage to force the authorities to let them flee their Jolo stronghold.

"As claimed by Misuari, a criminal action—under Section 15 of Rule 110 of the Rules of Court—should normally be instituted and tried in the court that has jurisdiction over the place where the offense was committed," the court said.

"However, this court has transferred venues of cases when the interest of justice so required," it said.

No fair trial

Misuari lawyer Arthur Lim said his client would file a motion for reconsideration of the SC ruling.

Lim said they would try to convince the court that "there can never be a fair and impartial trial of the accused" anywhere near Manila.

The public, especially the majority Christians living in Manila and surrounding areas, are already prejudiced against Misuari, whose MNLF forces in the 1970s killed scores of soldiers, Lim said.

Lim added: "The rights of the accused are superior."

Before he led the pocket rebellion in November, Misuari was the outgoing governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, a post he won readily because of the peace accord the rebellious MNLF had signed with the government. *With Martin P. Marfil and AFP*

HAVE A COMPETITIVE EDGE!
50% off P2,000/ course
Study at VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English
CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing
PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE
MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1048 to 49
ALABANG - 850-4756 / 850-4757

RICOH COPIERS
AVAILABLE: LEASE TO OWN/RENTAL • WE TRANSACT 24 HOURS/DAY FROM MONDAY TO SUNDAY
P12,000 only Liquid Type
P16,000 only Powder Type
BOND PAPER=P65/rm. DISPERSANT=P42/ltr. U.S. SP TONER=P280/ltr.
KAI General mdse. Tel.: 716-6110 • 713-8481 • 780-0302 • 780-0304 (INFRONT OF PUP ENGINEERING & ARCHITECTURE BLDG.) GC-1 BLDG. 1 GSIS METROHOMES, PUREZA, STA. MESA, MANILA
LUZON
Baguio (074) 443-5914 / 304-2946 / (0916) 4223811 • Tarlac (045) 800-0409 / (0916) 4856874 • Daet (054) 721-5829 • Naga 472-0494 • Iriga (054) 655-2024 • Legaspi (052) 820-3345 • Masbate (056) 3332793
VISAYAS
Cebu (0917) 6082309 • Iloilo (033) 329-7828 • Tacloban (053) 325-3441 / (0919) 6516273 • Catbalogan (055) 251-2206 • Calbayog (055) 209-3322
MINDANAO
Davao (082) 222-6624 / (0917) 7324178 • Gen. Santos (083) 302-0743 • Cagayan de Oro (088) 231-3850 / (0919) 2403898 • Iligan (063) 221-6482 • Pagadian (062) 214-4551 • Cotabato (064) 421-6239 / (0919) 4247220 •

COPIERS
RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
P12,000. ONLY LIQUID TYPE SAVIN 780 220 V, 60Hz
P16,000. ONLY POWDER TYPE FT 3320 220 V, 60Hz
P46,500. ONLY BRAND NEW DIGITAL COPIER + PRINTER 9512 A
100% GUARANTEED! KATUN TONERS & PARTS FOR USE IN SHARP, CANON, RICOH, MINOLTA, TOSHIBA, SELEX, MITA, GESTETNER, RISO, KONICA, ETC.
NOW AVAILABLE: LEASE TO OWN / RENTAL (We Accept Trade-in)
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Nr. NU)
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Outlets: Cabanatuan: (0919)7090934 • Cebu: 253-2402
Tarlac: (0918)-6738497
CHEAPER REFILL INK AND CARTRIDGES FOR MOST COMPUTER PRINTER MODELS

★USA★CANADA★AUSTRALIA★IRELAND★SINGAPORE★KOREA★BRAZIL★GUATEMALA★INDONESIA★THE NETHERLANDS★THE PHILIPPINES★MEXICO★TAIWAN★UNITED ARAB EMIRATES★
CitiBeds® THE LEADER™
BEDDING Blowout
UP TO 30% OFF!
Sleep better PAY LATER PLAN
0% ZERO INTEREST
UP TO 12 MONTHS TO PAY...
AVAILABLE ONLY THRU SELECTED MAJOR CREDIT CARDS
30 NIGHT TRIAL
ALWAYS LOOK FOR THE CITIBEDS LABEL!
NOW OWNING A CITIBEDS SLEEPSET, SOFABEDS & SOFA MADE EASY!
CITIBEDS BRANCHES:
• CITIBEDS SM MEGAMALL [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SM CITY [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SM SOUTHMALL [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SM STA. MESA [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SM BACOOR [illegible]
• CITIBEDS ALIMALL [illegible]
• CITIBEDS R. GALLERIA [illegible] loc. 273
• CITIBEDS STA.LUCIA [illegible]
• CITIBEDS N. EDSA [illegible]
• CITIBEDS FAIRVIEW Center Mall [illegible]
• CITIBEDS MAGALLANES [illegible]
• CITIBEDS FILINVEST [illegible]
• CITIBEDS TIMOG [illegible]
• CITIBEDS WEB SITE: www.citibeds.com
• CITIBEDS SHAW [illegible]
• CITIBEDS PACO [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SFDM, QC [illegible]
• CITIBEDS LAS PIÑAS [illegible]
• CITIBEDS WEST AVE. [illegible]
• CITIBEDS EVER GOTESCO ORTIGAS [illegible]
• CITIBEDS MANGALDAN BO. BARI PANGASINAN TEL. [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION TEL. [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SM CEBU [illegible]
• CITIBEDS ILOILO GAISANO MALL [illegible]
• CITIBEDS SIT N' SLEEP SHANGRI-LA PLAZA [illegible]
• CITIBEDS EMAIL : citibeds@citibeds.com
PER DTI NCR PERMIT NO. 2126 SERIES OF 2002
KING KOIL FACTORIES: TRINIDAD★KAZAKHSTAN★PANAMA★SOUTH AFRICA★COLOMBIA★NEW ZEALAND
★ECUADOR★THAILAND★MALAYSIA★ARGENTINA★CHINA★INDIA★

COPYSTAR OFFICE AUTOMATION
PROVEN HEAVY DUTY COPIER REMANUFACTURED
Introducing CLEAR POWDER COPIER
RICOH FT 3320 for only P16,000
RING & THERMAL BINDER P8,000
LAMINATOR P3,800
P2,200 PAPER SHREDDER
SALES: 899-7101 up to 04 / 899-7045 • 899-7075 to 76 • 899-7023
MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near corner Makati Ave., Makati City
Fax: 895-7802 • CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City ☎255-0504 • 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: McArthur Hi-way, Dolores San. Fdo., Pampanga ☎963-5055 to 59 • Fax: 963-5059

PERFECT Kitchen
BUILDING KITCHEN CAN NEVER BE AS WORRY-FREE
• No carpentry worries
• Hassle-free
• Collapsible, Reusable and Durable
• Time Saver
• With ready-made items in colors that would suit your taste
• Fits your Budget
NO NEED TO HUNT FOR CARPENTERS, NO MORE IMPRECISE ESTIMATES
P27,223
OUR PRICES IS MUCH LOWER THAN THE OTHER BRAND
WIRE PRODUCTS
ALL PURPOSE 21.6 X 50 cms.
PLATES & SAUCERS 21.6 x 50 cms.
CUPS & GLASSES 21.6 x 50 cms.
HIGH CABINET WITH DOOR 40 x 57 X 216 cms
LOW CABINET 80 X 57 X 85 cms.
MULTI-PURPOSE CABINET W/ MIRROR 40 X 17 X 60 cms.
SHOW ROOM/SALES OFFICE:
#131 Timog Ave., cor. Edsa
Quezon City (Beside GMA-7)
Tel. No.: (632) 415-2386 • 926-8345
Telefax : (632) 927-6210
SHOWROOM: 3rd Floor Robinsons
Place-Metro East Marcos
Highway, Dela Paz, Pasig City
Tel. # 415-2079

Gloria thanks police

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo hailed members of the Philippine National Police on Wednesday night for ensuring a peaceful celebration of "People Power II" amid threats of massive mobilization by supporters of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

"I would like to thank you for ensuring an orderly celebration in the face of threats to stage an 'Edsa 4' during our anniversary on Jan. 20," Ms Arroyo told police and military officials and a crowd of 3,000 policemen and soldiers.

"You were very good at intelligence work; preemptive action and at crowd control. In fact members of the police crowd control units were larger than the crowd they had to control," she added in jest.

Police had uncovered a plot by leaders of the People's Movement Against Poverty to launch a massive mobilization during the "Edsa II" celebrations, and placed some 10,000 policemen in Metro Manila on alert.

Some PMAP leaders had earlier been tagged as those who instigated the bloody siege of Malacañang on May 1 last year.

Globe HANDYPHONE
TXTCITED to Win every hour?
Here's the word of the day. Text now!
C A M P S U
Clue: Get the latest buzz on what's happening in your school or university from myGlobe's ______ Bulletin.
Unscramble the letters and send with your name and address to 2255. Don't forget to put a space between words. Win the hottest Nokia phones and cash prizes every hour from 10AM to 4PM daily, so keep texting!

Warning aired over 'sick' chicken

By Rocky Nazareno and C. Gaylican

WARNINGS have been raised about the possibility a huge shipment of infected chicken parts from the United States may be headed to the Philippines.

Senators Manuel Villar and Edgardo Angara issued yesterday separate statements warning about the possible entry of chicken parts infected with the bird flu virus that were turned away by Japan and China.

"If infected chicken parts are allowed into our country, this could pose a serious health risk to the public," said Villar, chair of the Senate committee on food and agriculture.

"We should not be made a dumping ground of infected food products. If it is not good enough for more progressive nations, it is not good enough for Filipinos," Villar added.

Angara, former agriculture secretary, said local poultry growers told him the chicken parts were purchased originally by Japanese buyers from major US poultry raisers.

According to the local growers, the Japanese agriculture ministry banned chicken imports from the US on Jan. 12 after an outbreak of bird flu in Pennsylvania.

China, another importer of chicken parts, imposed a similar ban when the flu outbreak was reported.

Local poultry growers said they received reports the US exporters were looking for other buyers for the questionable shipment.

Aside from the health risk, Angara warned that allowing the dumping of chicken parts in the country would harm the local poultry industry.

He said only the importation of whole chickens from the US should be allowed to make the local poultry raisers more competitive.

American growers, however, would not dump whole chickens here because the breast and other white portions of the bird command a premium price in the US.

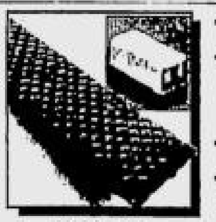
Afraid the deadly bird flu may spread to Filipino consumers, the Bureau of Animal Industry has recommended the Philippines issue a temporary ban on chicken imports from the US.

A BAI source said the bureau has drafted an administrative order recommending a temporary ban on dressed chicken, day-old chicks and eggs from the US to be signed by the Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor.

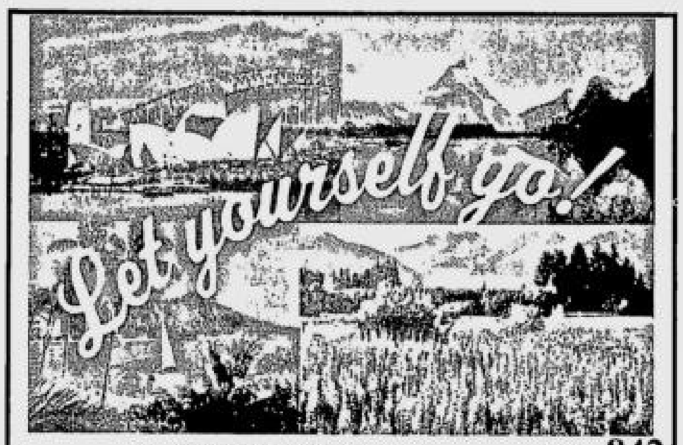
The BAI, the Philippine Association of Broiler Integrators and the United Broiler Raisers Association are currently monitoring the shipment from the US.

Begin a new life
Cure your bad breath
No need to consult with medical experts. The cause of bad breath has been diagnosed and pinpointed.
Therabreath™ System is the solution to the problem. It is guaranteed to cure *bad breath, bitter/sour taste, phlegm in throat, pasty saliva, awful morning breath.*
Free Delivery w/in Metro Mla.- Moneyback Guarantee
Call: Norville Fresh Breatheraphy Center
890-8380; 895-5532; 895-6775

BEDRIDDEN WITH BEDSORES?
- Totally eliminates bedsores
- No need to turn patient as pad alternately inflates & deflates every 5 minutes
- Relieves pressure on patients back
- Made in Europe
FLY PAD
ALSO AVAILABLE: MEDICAL BED SORES PATCHES
fareastmedical.net
SM MANILA 5TH FLR. 484-1471
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800-40-93
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721-34-87
CEBU 262-32-39



PC BODEGA GUARANTEED Brand New Components
Your One-Stop Computer Shop
www.pcbodega.com.ph Order-Online
Computer On Sale!
P4 REVOLUTION ▸▸ Pentium 4 1.4 GHz
SIS chipset Mboard,128MB Memory 32MB S3 Savage 4, 32bit AudioCard 20GB 5400rpm HDD, 52X CD-Drive 1.44MB FDD, 15" Monitor, 120W speaker 500W AVR, 56k modem "INTERNET READY" ₱26,000
ARMADA GAMEMASTER ▸▸ Pentium III 800 Mhz
VIA Chipset Mboard,256MB Memory GeForce MX 32MB, 32bit AudioCard 20GB 7200rpm HDD, 1.44MB FDD 17" Monitor, 180W speaker, 500W AVR 10/100 Mbps NIC "NETWORK READY" ₱26,500
PCB SMALLOFFICE ▸▸ Celeron 850 Mhz
VIA Chipset Mboard,128MB Memory Video and 32bit Audio controller 20GB 5400rpm HDD, 52X CD-Drive 1.44MB FDD, 14" Monitor, 180W speaker 500W AVR, 56k modem "INTERNET READY" ₱17,800
20GB 5400rpm — 3,650
40GB 5400rpm — 4,300
40GB 7200rpm — 5,100
MAG 15" XJ558 — 4,650
19" XJ810 — 8,500
CyberDrive 16x12x40 CDWriter ▸ ₱4,250 Limited Stocks Only!
Tel# (02)721-4482/724-7905/724-7819 #12A Doña Juana S. Rodriguez Ave. New Manila Q.C (corner aurora blvd. infront of Broadway Centrum)



Australia 7D/6N Sydney & Melbourne US$ 842
7D/6N Brisbane/Gold Coast/Sydney US$ 862
10D/9N Brisbane/Gold Coast/Sydney/Melbourne US$1069
New Zealand 7N/8D North and South Island US$1496
Norwegian Cruise Line Freestyle Cruising
NCL
• 7D Alaska Cruise* US$ 749
Departs: April 29 & May 13
• 7D Hawaiian Island Cruise* US$ 717
Departs: April 21, 28 & May 19
* Cruise Fare only!
Call your Destination Manager! TOURS & SIGHTS, INC.
2/F Pink Star Bldg., 1804 Leon Guinto cor. J. Nakpil Sts., Malate, Manila
Tel.: 521-5556 Fax: 3380826 E-mail: toursights@eastern.com.ph

Would an MBA open new possibilities in your future?
Attend the MBA Fair and learn about graduate programs in management at universities in eleven countries. Admission is free.
No advance registration is required.
MBA Fair
Monday, January 28, 18:00-21:00
The Peninsula-Manila, Ayala Avenue at Makati Avenue
The following universities will be represented:
ASIA
Asian Institute of Management (AIM) (Philippines)
The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology (Hong Kong)
Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
AUSTRALIA
Melbourne Business School
CANADA
University of Western Ontario
York University
EUROPE
Bocconi University (Italy)
Copenhagen Business School (Denmark)
Cranfield University (UK)
Erasmus University (Netherlands)
ESADE (Spain)
HEC School of Management (France)
Manchester Business School (UK)
IMD (Switzerland)
University of Cambridge (UK)
University of Navarra (IESE) (Spain)
U.S.A.
Arthur D. Little School of Management
Babson College
College of William and Mary
Duke University
Emory University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Portland State University
Suffolk University
Thunderbird: American Graduate School of International Management
University of Dallas
University of Denver
University of Maryland
University of Southern California
Vanderbilt University
This event is sponsored by
THE MBA TOUR
www.thembatour.com

Forty Winks
Everything that's good in beds.

STOCK-TAKING SALE!
SAVE UP TO 30% OFF!
PROMO PERIOD UNTIL END OF THIS MONTH

Sealy
Posturepedic
WE SUPPORT YOU NIGHT AND DAY
THE LARGEST SELLING MATTRESS IN THE U.S.!
GO TO BED WITH Sleepyhead
FROM NEW ZEALAND
USING THE MOST ADVANCED COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN MATTRESSES
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT# 0149 SERIES OF 2002

SM BACOOR (046)4171972
SM CEBU (32)2321632
SM MEGAMALL 6356812-13
SM NORTH EDSA 9276813
SM SOUTHMALL 8001110-11
OPEN DAILY 10:00am to 9:00pm
GREENBELT Legaspi st. cor Paseo de Roxas 8105647
MAGALLANES San Gregorio cor. SSHighway 8541850-52
FIESTA WORLD MALL (043)9810790
STA. LUCIA 6817498-99
WOMAN THE STORE Glorietta 3, Makati City 8100174
OPEN DAILY 9:00am to 8:00pm

Facial Care Centre's
Reverse Ageing Resolutions
Buy One Take One
Start the year right! Improve your skin condition and so improve the quality of your life. Come to Facial Care Centre and avail of our BIG NEW YEAR OPENNER:
BUY ONE, TAKE ONE on ADVANCED LASERTONE TREATMENT from January 21 - 27, 2002 only!
Don't miss this **ONCE-A-YEAR** chance to have beautiful, younger-looking skin! The BIGGEST OPPORTUNITY to experience *Reverse Ageing* only happens this January.
Call Facial Care Centre NOW!
Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
NOW OPEN
MAKATI 817-3323 812-6080/81 Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.
ORTIGAS 687-2196 687-2197 631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.
QUEZON CITY 372-6633 372-6634 410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue
SHAW 534-7701/02 717-0076 Sunshine Square Plaza
ALABANG 842-1144 809-9583 / 850-4577 Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.
BINONDO 243-8138/39 243-8602 / 243-9895 City Plaza Tower, Plaza del Conde St.
CONGRESSIONAL 920-7938 920-7992 / 920-8064 Q Plaza Congressional Avenue
PAMPANGA 961-3404/08 860-2663/64 Dan's Marketing Bldg., McArthur Highway, San Fernando
CEBU 233-7631 233-7633/35 Keppel Centre, Cebu City
ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #4400 Series of 2001
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

Erap lawyers to question special court

By Volt Contreras

THE LAWYERS for Joseph Estrada will question the Supreme Court's creation of a special division in the Sandiganbayan to hear the criminal cases against the deposed president.

This according to a statement by the Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP), Estrada's political party.

The move may be too late, however, to prevent the new special division from hearing Estrada's plunder case beginning Monday.

In its first order, the special division chaired by Associate Justice Minita Chico Nazario yesterday approved the serving of a subpoena to a prosecution witness for a Jan. 28 court appearance.

PMP spokesperson Jesus Crispin Remulla said creating the special court "gave the impression the Estradas were being singled out from among the other accused with pending cases before the country's courts."

"Why no special court for (former first lady) Imelda Marcos whose cases have been pending for 16 years?" asked Remulla.

In the statement, the PMP said Estrada and his co-accused son, Jinggoy, "are planning to ask the SC to reconsider" its Jan. 21 ruling creating the special panel to exclusively hear the plunder and three other cases against them.

Estrada's defense team, Remulla said, believes the special court violates the principle of "equal protection under the law."

The SC itself, Remulla said, has issued landmark rulings maintaining that "any rule or ordinance that singles out an individual exclusively and excludes other persons in similar situations is a denial of his equal protection guarantee under the Constitution."

Remulla noted that there are other cases pending before the Sandiganbayan "that are just as important and as compelling as those filed against Mr. Estrada... yet no special court division has been created for them."

A case against Imelda Marcos, for example, is pending before the Sandiganbayan's Third Division, the original court assigned to handle the Estradas' plunder case.

The special court yesterday summoned Ma. Socorro Yolanda de Leon of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, Cubao-Araneta Center branch, to testify on how a P189.7-million check—Estrada's alleged commission from the sale of Belle Corp. shares to the SSS and GSIS—ended up in the infamous "Jose Velarde" account. Jose Velarde was the alleged fictitious name used by Estrada to hide his bank account.

De Leon will be the prosecution's fourth witness in connection with the Belle transaction issue.

SEA faces new terror challenge

SOUTHEAST Asian governments, which have fought traditional insurgencies for decades, are coming to grips with a new and more potent form of terrorism unleashed by Saudi militant Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network, analysts say.

Dozens of suspected al-Qaida members have been arrested in Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore in recent weeks, largely through intelligence sharing and cooperation among regional police units.

Questioning of those apprehended indicated they were operating under the al-Qaida umbrella, with most of them planning to destroy American installations and overthrow governments in the region.

"Quite clearly, all Southeast Asian governments recognize the need to share information in a coordinated manner across borders to fight this new form of terrorism," Andrew Tan, a security analyst at Singapore's Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies, said.

Tan said governments in the region were entering unchartered waters as they battled the threat posed by al-Qaida, which he described as "a multinational network equipped with modern and sophisticated technology."

"We have to understand that al-Qaida has members with 40 different nationalities, operates globally as a network with many subsidiaries and geared to take full advantage of freedom and technologies offered by a modern globalized economy," he said.

"This is a new form of terrorism for governments which had previously fought only traditional terror groups," said Tan, who specializes in broad conflicts in Southeast Asia, including insurgencies.

Nearly all Southeast Asian governments have fought insurgencies.

Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, for example, have managed to suppress decades of guerrilla warfare staged by underground communist parties.

The Philippines is fighting Muslim and communist guerrilla groups while Indonesia faces threats largely from Muslim separatist groups.

Only after the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States did governments in the region—where Muslims make up more than half of the 500 million population—identify al-Qaida cells in their backyard.

The Philippines last week arrested an Indonesian believed to be an explosives expert of an organization called Jemaah Islamiyah, which police say is a "terror group" operating in Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia with links to the al-Qaida.

The arrest of Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, allegedly the main recruiter of Filipino members for al-Qaida, came after a tipoff from Singapore and led to the seizure of an explosives cache meant for regional attacks.

Ghozi had five passports with different names.

"So what does this say? I think the more we go into it, the more we will find out that this global threat of terrorism is real," Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said. **AFP**

CORPORATE GIVEAWAY w/ logo
Wallclock 10" + Alarm Clock = P190 /set only
Corporate Watches P230/pc.
Leather Keychain P35/pc.
Table Top Items
Just Fax/e-mail logo to us
Call: 824-6656 / 821-4102
Fax 824-6656 or e-mail systeco@edsamail.com.ph

Hi Wire
UNMETERED
internet access
All the Internet you can use for only ₱1,000 a month
PLUS
EARN ₱10,000 for every 3 users you refer!
CALL NOW 8788588
info@hiwire.net.ph www.hiwire.net.ph

THE BOLD LOOK OF KOHLER.
Fixtures And Faucets
MISTY Vanity Mirror Cabinet
NEW ARRIVAL
* Compact design * Adjustable shelf
* Versatile left/right door swing
* Perfect for fast old kit and Personal accessories
Northen
535-7221/ 309-9020
BOL FAUCET
Conical Bell
Gabrielle

Dahil sulit ang MAXI COPY, suportahan taka!!

GRABE!!! 10 REAMS +1*
MAXI COPY
MAGANDA PA ANG PAPEL
HURRY! offer good: Nov. 12, 2001 to Mar. 31, 2002

FACTORY PRICES
CUT COST BY BUYING DIRECT FROM THE SOURCE
EXTRA BONUS: GET 1 REAM *FREE FOR EVERY 10 REAM PURCHASE.

MAXI COPY PAPER 70 GSM (SUBS. 20)

8.5 X 11	P 85.00
8.5 X 13	P 100.00
A-4 SIZE	P 93.00
A-3 SIZE	P 186.00
11 X 17	P 170.00

MAXI COPY PAPER 80 GSM (SUBS. 24)

8.5 X 11	P 100.00
8.5 X 13	P 120.00
A-4 SIZE	P 110.00
A-3 SIZE	P 220.00
11 X 17	P 200.00

PACKED IN 10 REAMS PER CARTON BOX
CARTON BOX RE-USABLE AS STORAGE BOX
TEL. NOS. : 363-6319 / 364-1953 /414-4420
FAX NO. : 361-6071
* subject to a maximum of 50 reams per client
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-721 Series of 2001

THE LANDMARK
SUPERMARKET
Make your money go a long way!
Join the Landmark Pay Day Craze. So even if you're short on cash, your budget goes a long way with Landmark Supermarket's best-price items.

El Niño plan urged

By G. Lacuarta

FARMERS' groups yesterday asked the government to adopt quickly a "comprehensive emergency food production plan" before the El Niño-induced dry spell predicted by experts hits the country middle of this year.

The Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas also pressed for the pursuit of a policy on food self-sufficiency and security instead of reliance on food importation in times of emergency.

"Instead of relying on food imports, the Macapagal government must pursue a policy of attaining food self-sufficiency and genuine food security in times of emergency, to cope with the threats of El Niño," said Rafael Mariano, KMP chair.

The Bureau of Soils and Water Management said the El Niño warm weather pattern will affect the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia and the central and eastern Pacific between April and September this year.

The KMP proposed an initial "Eight-Point Emergency Food Production Plan" to be carried out before the drought hits.

This, the group said, would include:

- Stopping the rampant conversion of agricultural lands to other uses.
- Encouraging production of food crops, instead of export crops.
- Practicing crop diversification, instead of mono-cropping practices.
- Halting immediately the San Miguel Corp.'s "land-grabbing" cassava plantation project in Isabela and mono-cropping practices employed by multinational corporations.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

We hereby inform the public that effective February 16, 2002, the following Globelines call rates shall be implemented:

- National Direct Dialing (NDD) rate of **₱4.50** per minute, regardless of time and distance, for all landline to landline calls originating from Globelines; and,
- Cellphone rate of **₱12.50** per minute, regardless of time, for all landline to cellphone calls originating from Globelines.

The said rates are inclusive of the 10% Value-Added Tax.

Globelines
It's all in here.

A SERVICE OF GLOBE TELECOM AND ISLA COMMUNICATIONS CO., INC.

Globelines is a trademark used by Isla Communications under license from Globe Telecom.

We know the skin care treatment you need...

Biboy Rivera:
TREATMENT: Remove sun-damaged winkles

Susan Lozada:
TREATMENT: Maintain fresh & whiter skin tones

Joy Conde
Miss Philippines
1976

Beauty and Skin Care Authority
nora dela rosa
Since 1972

MAIN CLINIC: G/F, 427 Martinez St., Mandaluyong City
Tels. 532-2115 / 534-2671
Clinic Hours: Mon to Fri 10AM to 8PM, Sat 9AM to 6PM
US BRANCH: 10041 Lampson Ave., Gardengrove, California, 92840 Tel. (714) 530-3124

OXY-GEN THERAPY SET

Relieve difficulty in breathing

Your complete indoor & outdoor first aid kit

Air on Wheels!

Includes:
Oxygen Regulator
Nasal Cannula
Oxygen Cylinder
Stroller Bag (3 in 1)

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St. Cor Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Tels: 631-1715, 631-9335, 637-9504 Fax (632) 631-7869
E-mail Address: medcen@info.com.ph

Cebu Branch (032) 254-2387
Lipa Branch (043) 757-2051
Pasig Branch (02) 631-1715
Manila Branch (02) 711-8374
Davao Branch (082) 222-4404
Iloilo Branch (033) 320-1451

Morning Star 15th Anniversary Special Promo

Fullboard
EUROPE
(13 Day Tour)
BELGIUM/FRANCE/SWITZERLAND/GERMANY/NETHERLAND
$1,699
~~$1,888~~
Departure: Feb. 20

6D5N	Hongkong/Shenzhen/ Macau/Zhuhai Jan. 28, Feb. 3, 18 & 26	USD 258
6D5N	Bangkok+Pattaya (Fullboard) Jan 28, / Feb. 2 & 22 March 02 & 09	USD 279
4D3N	Shanghai Feb. 23, / March 07 & 09	USD 369
6D5N	Shanghai/Suzhou/ Hangzhou Jan. 28 / Feb. 8, 18, 26	USD 456
5D4N	Xiamen/Putouzhan/ Shanghai Feb. 22, March 1, 8 & 15	USD 599
8D7N	Shanghai/Beijing/ Shenzhen /Hongkong Feb 03 & 24	USD 699
9D7N	Australia (Fullboard) Melbourne/ Albury/ Canberra/Blue Mountain/Sydney Feb 16	USD 999
3D2N	LAOAG Fort Ilocandia Hotel (5*) 2N + 2ABF - Round trip ticket	₱3,690 Every Sunday departure

星闢旅遊有限公司
MORNING STAR
TRAVEL AND TOURS, INC.
- Manila: Tels.: 526-1111 • 521-5183 • 521-6631
- Makati: Tels.: 812-6201 to 08 • 893-7626 • 813-2738
- Binondo: Tel.: 246-6666 to 60
- Cebu: (032) 233-8263 • 233-8265

IATA
PTAA MEMBER

NEW 12TH BRANCH

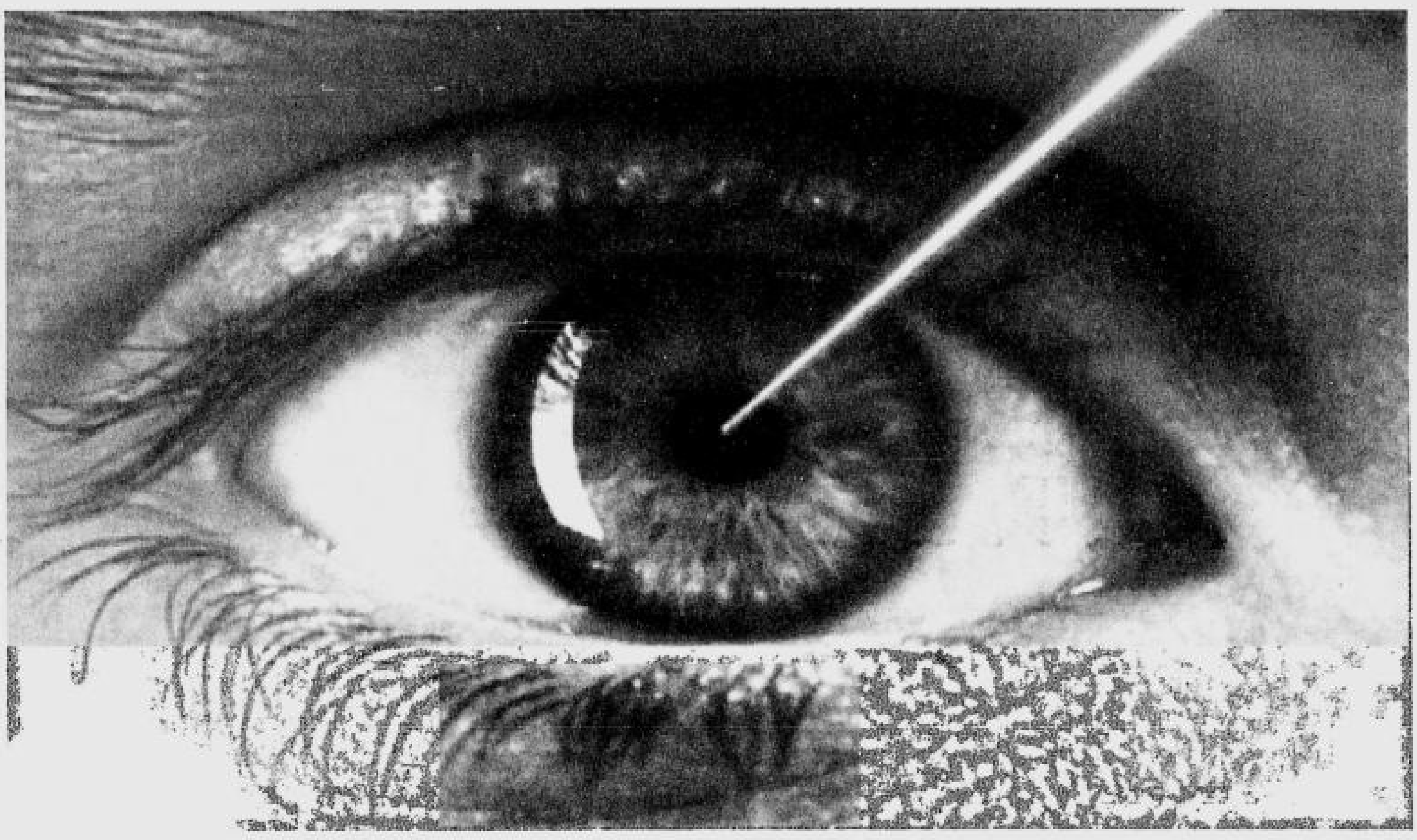
WILCON BUILDER'S OPENS AT QUIRINO

(NEAR COR. MINDANAO AVE.)

QUIRINO HI-WAY
NBC
TANDANG SORA
MINDANAO AVE.
ROAD 8
WILCON BS
EDSA
CONGRESSIONAL AVE.
MUÑOZ

WILCON
BUILDER'S SUPPLY, INC.
HOME OF QUALITY BUILDING MATERIALS
Lot 119, C-1, Mindanao Avenue
Brgy. Talipapa, Quezon City
Tel Nos.: 935-9649 • 935-9650 • 935-96-51
• 935-9653 • 935-96-46

Need laser eye surgery?



Let Asian Eye handle it... using the latest excimer laser technology.

If you are nearsighted, farsighted, or have astigmatism, you will be glad to know that any of these conditions can now be corrected through laser surgery. Provided, of course, that your eyes are qualified for it.

Come to Asian Eye Institute and see what excimer laser technology can do to your eyesight. And what a difference it can make to your daily life.

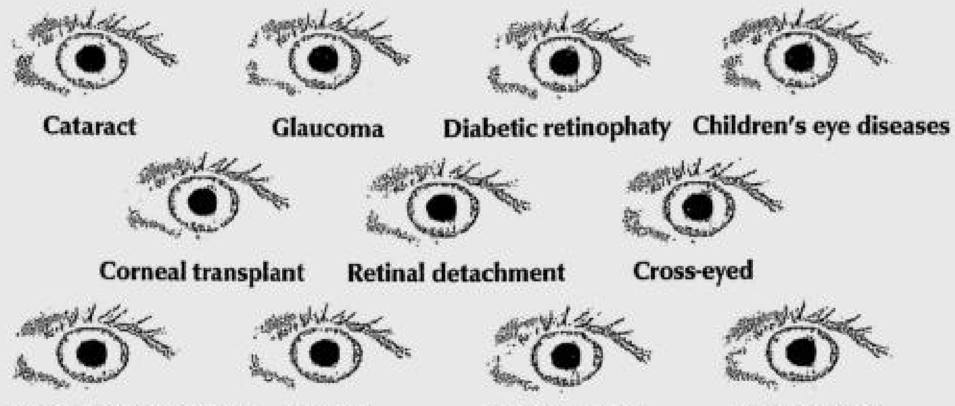
Asian Eye counts on some of the finest Filipino ophthalmologists practicing today. They are fellowship graduates of the Harvard Medical School. They were handpicked by the Center's medical director, the eminent Filipino-American ophthalmologist, Dr. Felipe I. Tolentino.

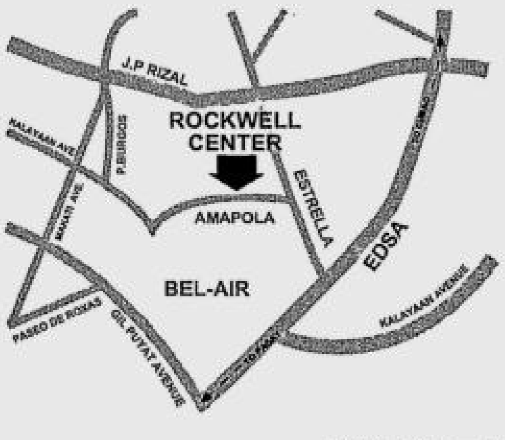
The Asian Eye medical team comes with the priceless combination of talent, expertise and experience—putting at your service diverse specialties and a wide range of surgical skills, all under one roof.

Asian Eye's facilities are world-class. The equipment are state-of-the-art. And the Center takes pride in its caring, well-trained staff chosen for their thoroughness and dedication.

Do your eyes a favor. Visit us at Asian Eye.

Asian Eye also provides specialized services for:





ASIAN EYE INSTITUTE
AEI
A whole new world of eye care

For your convenience, please call us at least one day in advance for an appointment.
9th and 10th Floors, Phinma Plaza, Rockwell Center, Makati City • Tel. (632) 898-2020 • Email: eyehelp@asianeyeinstitute.com • Website: www.asianeyeinstitute.com

Atong won't flee, wife assures US court

ANG

LAS VEGAS—The wife of former Philippine presidential gambling adviser Charlie "Atong" Ang guaranteed that her husband won't flee if he is released from federal custody on bail.

"I would surrender my passport as well as my children's," Nerrise Ang said during her husband's bail hearing Wednesday.

She promised US District Magistrate Lawrence R. Leavitt that Ang "would not go anywhere."

In the Philippines, Ang faces the capital offense of plunder, or the theft of public funds. He is accused of funneling tobacco tax kickbacks and illegal payoffs from gambling to former President Joseph Estrada. The charges could bring him the death penalty.

The bail hearing was adjourned until Thursday when Assistant US Attorney Gregory Damm will argue that Ang is a flight risk and shouldn't be granted bail. Ang is being held in the North Las Vegas jail on a federal fugitive warrant while the Philippines seeks to extradite him.

"He fled the Philippines, in my opinion, not because he was in fear of his life, but because he didn't want to be prosecuted," Damm said after the hearing.

"I suspect if he's not detained in this case here, he may flee somewhere else."

Ang applied for political asylum with the Immigration and Naturalization office in Anaheim, California, claiming he fears for his life if he returns to the Philippines. A Feb. 8 hearing is scheduled in Anaheim on that matter.

Ang's lawyer Donald Etra said Ang deserves bail.

"Mr. Ang should not be in jail. He has committed no crime. He is a political pawn of the current Philippine government," Etra said during a break in the hearing.

Ang held no elected position in the Philippines, but was a friend to Estrada and consultant to the state-owned Philippine Gaming Corp.

Estrada is standing trial in the on charges of collecting millions through illegal kickbacks and payoffs during 31 months in office. He was ousted a year ago and accused of corruption and misrule. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Ang moved with his family to the United States the same day Estrada lost power to his former vice president, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Ang later bought a home in Las Vegas.

Nerrise Ang testified that her husband is "in the middle of two stones—the administration and the past administration."

She said her husband's life would be in jeopardy if he returned to the Philippines.

Damm noted that Nerrise Ang's tourist visa expires in March and must be renewed if she is to stay in Las Vegas with her husband.

Nerrise Ang told the court the family wants to stay in the United States and has contacted an immigration lawyer.

At one point, Nerrise Ang wept as she talked about returning to their home in the Philippines to pack their belongings. She said she and one of her daughters kept the lights turned off and couldn't let anyone know they were there.

"We don't know where to go," she said.

Earlier, Filipino lawyer Raymond Fortun, who represents Estrada, testified that there is no evidence against Ang except for two statements by a provincial governor.

Gov. Luis Singson, governor of northern Ilocos Sur province and a former Estrada gambling buddy, sparked the scandal by accusing him of pocketing illegal gambling payoffs and tobacco tax kickbacks.

Leavitt said he was concerned about alleged death threats against Ang and about claims that the case is politically motivated.

Ang's extradition hearing is scheduled for Feb. 28.

AP

Public works projects online

By Armand N. Nocum

THE PUBLIC works office has put up an internet web site to project its programs, projects and announce schedule of biddings, but it has found itself flooded with complaints about poor road conditions and delayed and substandard projects.

However, Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong is undaunted, saying they have expected the complaints to start pouring in.

"It is our intention to provide a direct feedback mechanism to make the operations of the department transparent," Datumanong said.

The information office of the Department of Public Works and Highways said they have put up internet website www.dpwh.gov.ph primarily to "provide information on program and status of major projects, bidding procedures and schedules, advertisement for bids and other vital information to the public."

"We also put in our press releases, bidding schedules, results; and guides on how one can register as a contractor or take part in biddings," said Elizabeth Pilorin of the DPWH information office.

But these days, she admit that she's kept busy answering complaints of floods, potholes and reports of poorly constructed project.

But DPWH does not get all the blame in the complaints.

A certain Albert Burgos of Pio del Pilar, Makati, for example, has vented his ire on telephone, water and electric companies that damage completed urban roads.

SOGO Automatic CENTRE

CUT-PRICE CLEARANCE SALE • CUT-PRICE CLEARANCE SALE • CUT-PRICE CLEARANCE SALE

KONKA
Model 2528 Color TV (25") 63.5cm (reg.P14,500)
SAVE P4,520
SPECIAL OFFER P9,980only

JVC
JVC Color TV DV-14F11 w/ JVC Cassette Rec.RC-M102 (reg. P 9,185)
PACKAGE PRICE P8,385only
SAVE P800

CINEMA
VCD Player
INTRODUCTORY OFFER P2398only

PHILIPS
Philips Micro-mini component MC-100
P7,600only
Philips flat Color TV 25PT2252
P25,900only
FREE VCD player

Kelvinator
Kelvinator Room Aircon (1HP) .746 Kw (reg. P11,900)
SAVE P1,000
P10,900only

National
Washing Machine NAS-500R
P2,999only
FREE 2 pcs. Laundry Hamper

CUT-PRICE* CLEARANCE SALE
JAN.25 TO FEB.10,2002
*on selected items only

CONDURA
P8,299only
Condura Ref. (5cu.ft.) .15cu.m.
FREE Umbrella

(16") 40.64cm Desk Fan as low as P498
(16") 40.64cm Stand Fan as low as P758
Rice Cooker as low as P495
4L Electric Airpot w/ Reboil as low as P998
2-Burner Gas Stove as low as P598
Blender w/ mill attachment (glass jug) as low as P698
12-pc Starter set as low as P158
7-pc Cookware set as low as P348
2 L Vacuum Flask as low as P129
Glass Pitcher w/ gift box as low as P68
Small Breadbox as low as P98
Toys as low as P42 Available at Sogo Giant Only

GARMENTS (At Sogo Giant Only)
Ladies Blouse as low as P80
Children's Dress as low as P50
Shorts as low as P80
Ladies Dress as low as P99
T-shirts as low as P80
Men's Pants as low as P110
Men's Jackets as low as P80

Join our Raffle Promo!
GIFT CHECK MANIA!
HALF A MILLION
*See posters for details

And many more items with big, big discounts

.SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER FACTORY OUTLET
Automatic CENTRE

SOGO BRANCHES:

SOGO GIANT FACTORY OUTLET
EDSA near cor. Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos. 633-6634 & 36

SOGO FACTORY OUTLET
Ali Mall,Cineplex cor. P. Tuazon St.
Araneta Center, Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. Nos. 912-6604 to 05 / 911-5772 / 912-2986

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Quezon Bargain Arcade
Gen. Malvar Ave. cor. Gen. Araneta Ave.
Araneta Center, Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. Nos. 911-2772 / 912-5483

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 3, Expansion Mall, Madison Blvd.
Robinsons Galleria, EDSA cor. Ortigas Ave., Q.C.
Tel. Nos. 632-0573 & 74 / 635-4746

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 2, Glorietta 1
Ayala Center Makati City
Tel. Nos. 867-2352 to 53

SOGO HOME & OFFICE CENTER
Level 2, Festival Supermall Filinvest,
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. Nos. 850-3535 to 37

AUTOMATIC CENTRE BRANCHES:

LAS PINAS
2/F SM Southmall Tels. 800-4724 to 25 / 800-4529

NORTH EDSA
West Ave., Q.C. beside McDonalds'
Tels. 927-6752 / 927-6747 / 927-6763

TUTUBAN
Ground Floor, Tutuban Center Mall 1
Tels. 253-2028 / 253-2020 / 251-0381 to 83

GREENBELT MEGASTORE
Greenbelt Mall, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tels. 817-9749 / 816-3891 to 92 /892-7696

GREENHILLS
Shoppesville Arcade, Ortigas Ave., San Juan
Tels. 721-3839 / 725-2012 / 726-3616

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Level 3 New Wing Expansion Mall
Alabang Town Center
Muntinlupa City Tels. 809-5981 / 809-5562

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0157, Series of 2002

STARTING THE YEAR RIGHT
SUPER MEGA SALE!
up to - 50% OFF
ON SELECTED ITEMS!
(Jan. 15 to Feb. 28, 2002)

a&s Lamps & Home Interiors

Shop and Save at our largest interior depot
The complete, one-stop shop for your home and office needs - lamps, decors, furniture, carpets and other furnishings - where only IMPORTED superior quality, finely crafted and artistically designed interiors are made, yet at surprisingly affordable price.

Attention:
Architects, Engineers, Interior Designers, Hotels & Restaurants Owners/Managers.
Choose from our wide array of beautifully designed lamps and the biggest chandeliers.
We're also accepting made to order lamps & furnitures for special projects. Wholesalers are always welcome.

Product Lines NEW ARRIVALS!

Come and visit us at:
a&s Lamps & Home Interiors
942 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. 421-5879 to 84
FREE DELIVERY! (Within Metro Manila Only)

TO MAKATI P. TUAZON Araneta Coliseum EDSA LRT AURORA BLVD. CUBAO (Crossing) TO MARIKINA KATIPUNAN NEW YORK ST To Monumento

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. A3-030 SERIES OF 2002

Junior INQUIRER
The news made just for KIDS
Every Saturday with the Inquirer
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
News that makes a difference

US firm offers digital voting

By Armand N. Nocum

A US-BASED computer company has offered its services to the Commission on Elections to modernize the country's electoral system.

In a press briefing, officials of Diebold Inc. said it can put up an "advanced digital technology" to effect an "orderly, fast, accurate and credible elections."

"This voting proper is envisioned to supplant the existing manual system wherein each voter is given a pen and sheets of paper with the list of candidates and led to an improvised polling booth," said Lamberto L. Lorenzo, vice president of the local I.T. firm Total Information Management (TIM) Corp.

TIM has recently linked up with Diebold Inc. to put up an "electric voting system."

The agreement came about even as the Senate committee on constitutional amendments, revision of codes and laws and electoral reforms has asked the Comelec to scout out for firms that can give it better technology at competitive cost.

The panel, which is drafting the poll modernization law, also wants the Comelec to consider acquiring automated counting and canvassing machines on lease basis.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

We hereby inform the public that effective February 16, 2002, the following changes in Globelines Prepaid shall be implemented:

NEW FEES/RATES
One Time Charge ₱ 1,500
Local calls ₱ 0.50/minute
NDD calls ₱ 4.50/minute
Cellphone calls ₱12.50/minute

*Said rates are inclusive of the 10% Value-Added Tax.

*NEW POLICY ON ACCOUNT EXPIRY
A Globelines Prepaid account shall be permanently disconnected:
(1) If a subscriber does not recharge his account 120 days after the last loading date; or,
(2) If a subscriber does not load a card within 60 days from his account's installation date.

To avoid service disruption, we remind all Globelines Prepaid subscribers to keep their account active by regularly loading a Globelines Prepaid card into their account.

Globelines PREPAID

A SERVICE OF GLOBE TELECOM AND ISLACOMMUNICATIONS CO.,INC.

Globelines is a trademark used by Isla Communications under license from Globe Telecom

TIP TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

TIP COMMENDS ITS LATEST STUDENT ACHIEVERS

Overall Champion,
15th National Architectural Students Association of the Philippines (ASAPhil) Quiz Competition
November 28, 2001

1st PLACE (GROUP)
LIZEL LLORET
ARVIN SEÑA
TONY ANDRO TAGUINOD

1st PLACE (INDIVIDUAL)
ARVIN SEÑA

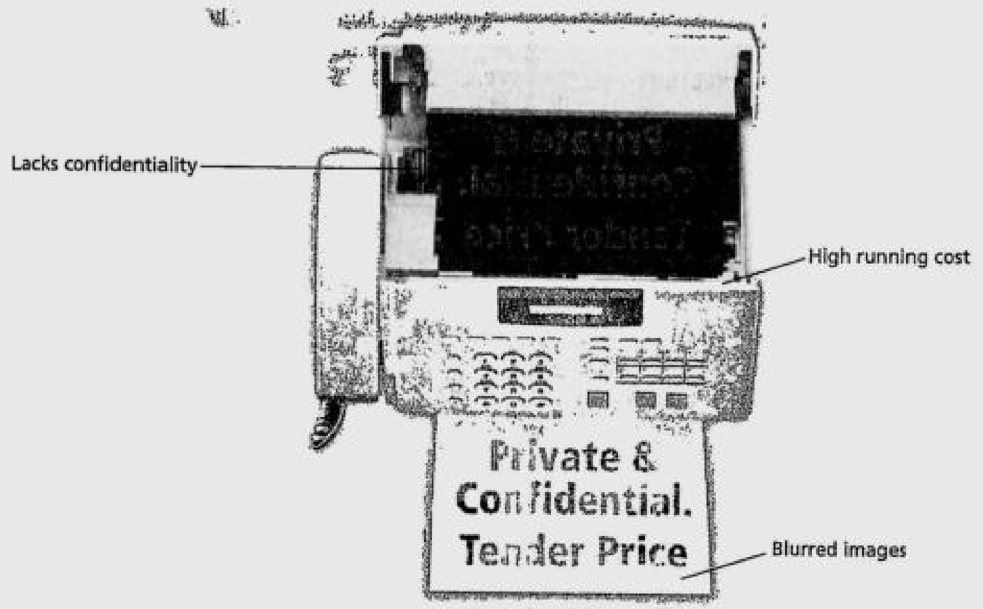
3rd PLACE (INDIVIDUAL)
TONY ANDRO TAGUINOD

We salute you!

www.tip.edu.ph
ISO 9001 CERTIFIED
TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES
In constant redefinition of academic life

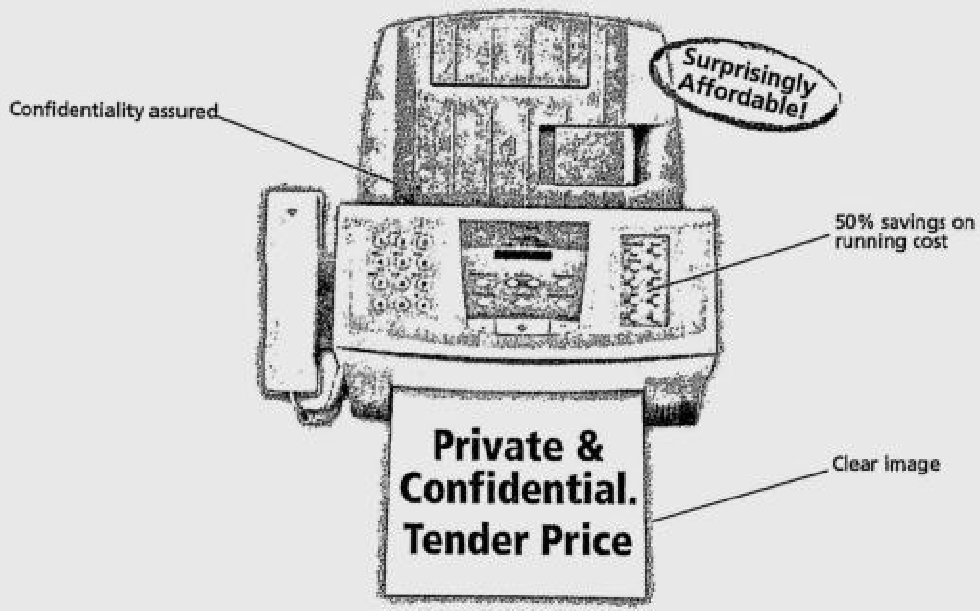
MANILA CAMPUS
363 P. Casal St., Quiapo, Manila 1001
Tels. 734-3642/ 733-9117
ARLEGUI CAMPUS
1338 Arlegui St., Quiapo, Manila 1001
QUEZON CITY CAMPUS
938 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 1109
Tels. 911-0148 / 912-1539

Problems, problems.



Ink Film Fax

The solution


Surprisingly Affordable!
Confidentiality assured
50% savings on running cost
Private & Confidential. Tender Price
Clear image

Canon Bubble Jet Fax

As you see, not all faxes are created equal. Canon Bubble Jet fax has the edge because it features unmatched Canon technology that results in impressively clear printouts with sharp images. Its filmless technology doesn't leave telltale imprints which give away the confidential contents of your documents. Yet it is pretty economical fax to maintain because there's only the cartridge to change. In fact, you can save up to 50% on running cost compared to an ink film fax.

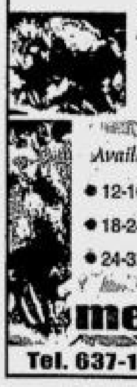
But why believe us? Visit your nearest authorized Canon dealer today and discover for yourself the advantages of having a Canon Bubble Jet Fax, and how surprisingly affordable it is.

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS : CANON SINGAPORE PTE LTD. 79 ANSON ROAD #09-01/06 SINGAPORE 079906 INTERNET: http://www.canon.com.ph
CANON MARKETING PHILIPPINES, INC. MARVIN PLAZA BLDG. 2153 DON CHINO ROCES AVENUE, MAKATI CITY. TEL: 812-6047/892-6449 FAX: 812-0067 E-mail address: info_sales@canon.com.ph

DEALERS: Digitron Int'l. Sales, Inc. Tel. No. 643-3456 Mercedes Ave., Brgy. San Miguel, Pasig City (Asian Durables Manufacturing, Inc.) • The Computer Authority Tel. No. 637-9208 18/F Taipan Place, Emerald Ave. Ortigas, Pasig City • Solid Business Machines Tel. No. 241-4094 to 95 Rm. 203 Singson Bldg., Plaza Moraga, Manila • Hytech Tel. No. 413-6899 9 Campanilla St., New Manila, Q.C. • Blamac Tel. No. 882-3355 Carson Bldg., Oranse cor. Del Carmen St., Guadalupe, Makati City • Villman Computer Tel. No. 892-2222/929-0411 Ayala Avenue, Makati City • Micro Pacific Tel. No. 840-4563 MI-C The Gallery Bldg., Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Canon
LEADER IN FAX TECHNOLOGY

Chicken Rotisserie
EASY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!



INTRODUCTORY SALE
LPG

Available in Capacities:
- 12-16 Chickens/ load (4 spits)
- 18-24 Chickens/ load (6 spits)
- 24-32 Chickens/ load (8 spits)

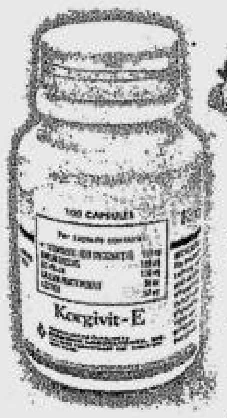
STAINLESS. HYGIENIC. DURABLE.

merit Kitchen Showroom
Tel. 637-1808 • 651-1472 ■ www.meritstainless.com

Guaranteed Satisfaction

Korgivit-E is a potent elixir. Contains pure Korean Ginseng, Bee Pollen, Lecithin and Vitamin E. Guaranteed to give you energy... Well into the night.

- To improve and maintain your youthful zest and vitality.
- To restore peak physical performance and stamina.
- To enhance your body's recuperative properties.

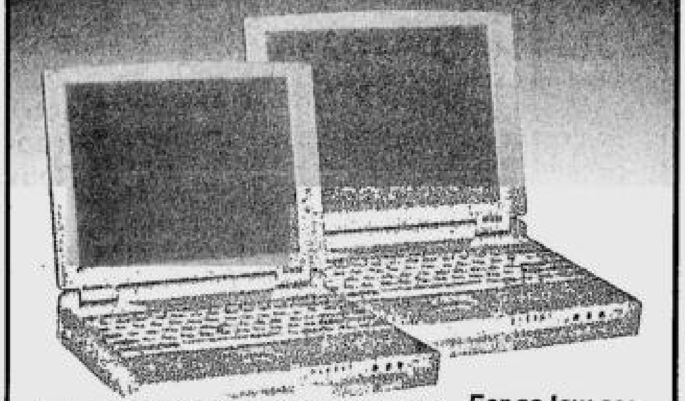


The secret to your staying Power.
Korgivit-E
Unisex Vitamin

Manufactured and Distributed by:
DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.
e-mail: diamond@i-manila.com.ph

Available at:
mercury drug & dsap members nationwide.

PAY LITE IN CHOOSING RIGHT!

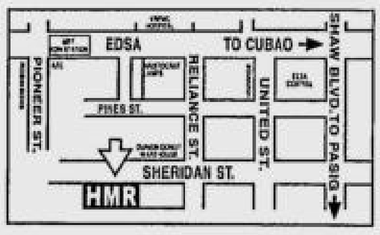


PENTIUM 75 MHz For as low as: P8,600
PENTIUM 90 MHz For as low as: P9,700
PENTIUM 120 MHz For as low as: P14,800
PENTIUM 133 MHz For as low as: P18,100
PENTIUM 166 MHz For as low as: P21,700

The Best Surplus Haus...
WHERE YOU GET YOUR MONEY'S WORTH

HMR PHILIPPINES, INC.
Belman Bldg., Sheridan cor. Reliance Sts.,
Mandaluyong City
Tel # 634-05-26 Fax # 631-53-86
E-mail: hmrphil@surfshop.net.ph
• Website:www.hmrgroup.com

OPEN DAILY FROM 9 AM - 6 PM



- ALL UNITS GUARANTEED WORKING W/ WARRANTY
- ALL PRODUCTS ARE IMPORTED FROM USA & AUSTRALIA
- WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 48
ISSN 0116-2642

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net

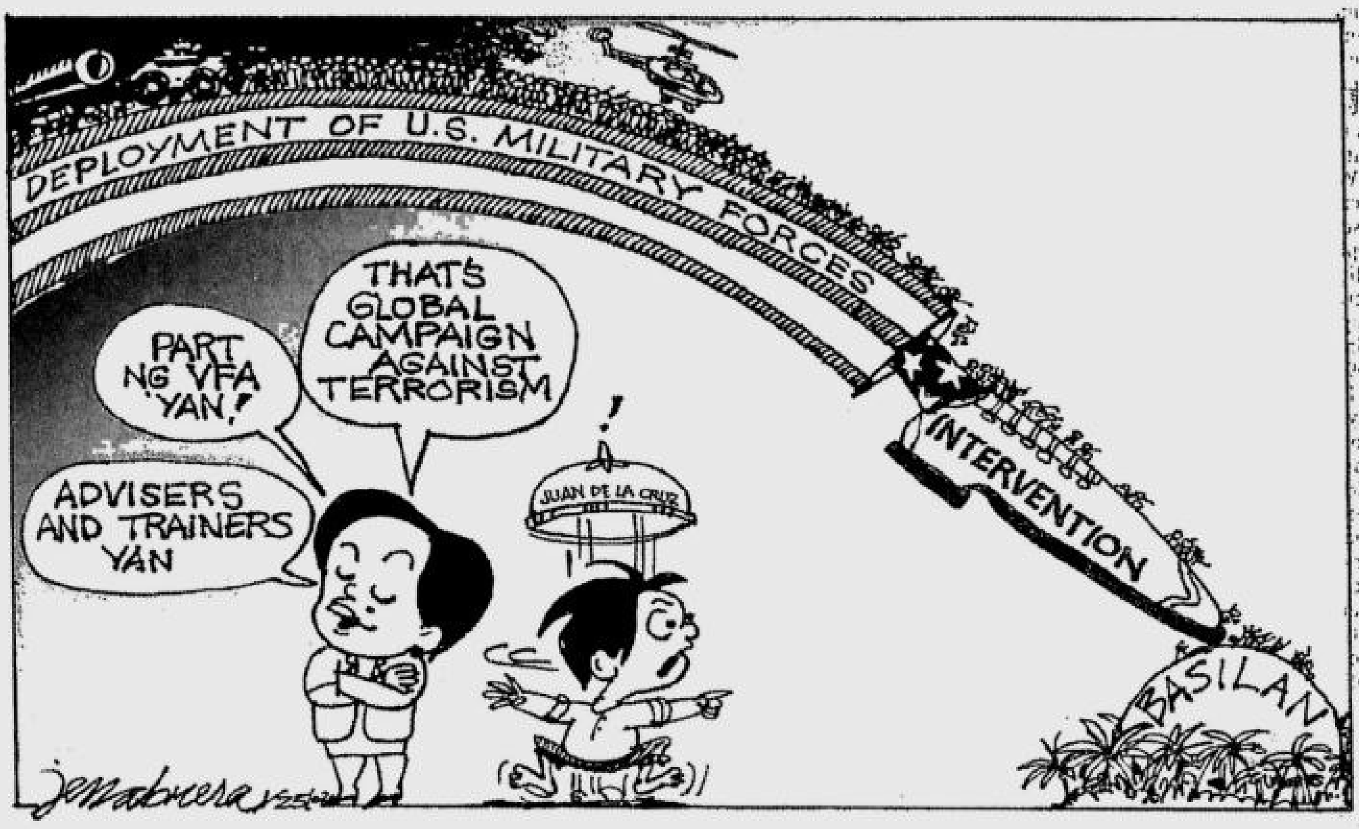
The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
▪ Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
▪ P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
▪ Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
▪ Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 ▪ Advertising 897-4807
▪ Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

100% soy ink

Publisher **ISAGANI YAMBOT**
Editor in Chief **LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC**
Managing Editor **JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO**
Associate Editor **ABELARDO S. ULANDAY**
News Editor **ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.**
Opinion Editor **JORGE V. ARUTA**
Assistant News Editor **NILO B. PAUROM**
National Editor **PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.**
City Editor **GERRY LIRIO**
Senior Deskpersons **ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR**
Editorial Consultant **AMANDO DORONILA**
Chief Photographer **ERNIE U. SARMIENTO**
Art & Design Director **LYNETT A. VILLARIBA**

Board Chairman **MARIXI R. PRIETO**
President **ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ**
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing **RENATO R. REINOSO**
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services **DAVID O. VALDES**
VP for Advertising **FELIPE R. OLARTE**
AVP for Circulation **GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL**

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.


DEPLOYMENT OF U.S. MILITARY FORCES
INTERVENTION
BASILAN
PART NG VFA 'YAN!
THAT'S GLOBAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM
ADVISERS AND TRAINERS YAN
JUAN DE LA CRUZ
jemabrera

Pattern of losing

EDITORIAL

FOR LAWYERS, nothing can be easier to do than to lose a case; there are any number of ingenious and devious ways to sell out a client. But losing can be quite difficult to manage when a case is very much in the public eye. Unless you happen to be the Ombudsman. Or at least that is what Misamis Oriental Rep. Oscar Moreno is saying.

Moreno charged in a privilege speech Wednesday that Ombudsman Aniano Desierto has filed a flawed plunder case in connection with a P5.3-billion tax credit scam that was "destined for dismissal by design." Desierto, he said, violated an agreement with a special legal task force that investigated the scam by conducting preliminary investigation of a consolidated plunder case. (To simplify the prosecution, the task force had recommended the filing of 12 separate plunder cases against 12 companies in the Chingkoe Group which got some P2.5 billion worth of fraudulent tax credit certificates and sold it to Petron and Shell. This was because the 12 companies had 12 different sets of officials.) Worse, the consolidated case excluded from the charge the Chingkoe couple who owned the 12 companies as well as some top officials of the two oil firms. As a result, Moreno said, the principals have been left off the hook while many of those who have been charged could go unpunished by pleading double jeopardy.

If Moreno's charges are true, this wouldn't be the first time the Office of the Ombudsman under Desierto has come close to throwing away an important case through sheer incompetence or some other more sinister reasons. Desierto almost torpedoed the biggest case ever brought before a Philippine court—the plunder case against Joseph Estrada—by filing 11 plunder cases against the disgraced former president. He was forced to withdraw the 11 cases and consolidate them into a single one after the private prosecutors assisting the Ombudsman pointed out that Estrada could invoke double jeopardy and get exonerated.

But that wasn't the last of the Ombudman's blunders. Desierto's deputy, Margarito Gervacio, who headed the prosecution panel then, filed a plunder case against Estrada's crony, businessman Jaime Dichaves, citing among other things his alleged ownership of the "Jose Velarde" account in Equitable PCIBank. That account was identified as Estrada's by several witnesses, including Clarissa Ocampo who had testified that she saw Estrada sign his name as "Jose Velarde." Assigning that account to Dichaves would have damaged irreparably the case against Estrada. The Ombudsman was forced to drop the case against Dichaves and include him among the respondents in the plunder case against Estrada when the private prosecutors protested and threatened to resign.

In their letter pleading for the President's intervention to save the cases, the private prosecutors charged that they had observed "a pattern of moves, decisions and steps on the part of the Ombudsman that objectively favor the accused and considerably weaken the case of the prosecution." The prosecution of the tax credit scam is apparently following the same pattern.

Faced with these fresh charges of sabotaging the Ombudsman's own case, Desierto responded by issuing an irrelevant statement accusing Moreno of using the case as a springboard for his senatorial ambition. One day later Desierto accused his accuser of lying, saying the Ombudsman had not excluded anyone from the proceedings. The preliminary investigation has just begun, he said, and the Chingkoes and some oil company executives have been ordered to file their counteraffidavits.

If so, why did it take Desierto one whole day to find this out? Are there so many billion-peso scams being handled by the Ombudsman that he can't recall the status of this one?

Desierto said he would ask the ethics committee of the House of Representatives to investigate Moreno for grave misconduct, saying he had withheld the truth from his colleagues. Sure. But first, the House should find out if Moreno had lied indeed. And the best way to find out is to listen to the testimony of the witnesses in the impeachment complaint filed against Desierto. In that case, Desierto is charged with corruption for allegedly accepting a bribe to sit on another case related to the tax credit scandal. The committee on justice threw out the case for lack of substance. But it never gave his principal accuser, lawyer Ernesto Francisco, a chance to substantiate his allegations. With Moreno's fresh charges, the committee should consider reviewing the case.

How the ₱5.3-B tax credit fraud was done

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo showed her singing prowess during the police shindig the other night and it is heartening to discover that she can have a career in show biz if she is heaved out of Mala-cañang either by election or by force. While I can assure Nora Aunor—the star to whom Ms Macapagal has been compared physically—that she need not worry about being replaced by her double, the latter nevertheless showed that she has slightly better chances of success in show biz than her son Mikey.

Politics and show biz, after all, are closely related. Politics is show biz with a darker side. You can't trust anybody; you never know who will stab you in the back. As one movie star said, "*Parehong saksakan ng kaplastikan.*" Everything is make-believe. Politicians make believe that they have only the interest of the public in their hearts. And the public is made to believe that candidates will serve them when elected. They are wrong on both counts of course but politicians and show-biz folk are experts in make-believe. They are birds of the same feather.

In fact, politicians use show-biz people to attract the crowds during campaign sorties. And entertainers themselves run for—and win—public office.

It is only after they have been in the public payroll for some time that the people wake up to reality and find out that what they were made to believe about the show-biz-politicians is false, only make-believe. But by then, it is too late.

The difference is that while movie stars disrobe to show everything, politicians put up smoke screens and camouflage to hide their dark side.

President Macapagal, for example, showed that behind her diminutive size, she packs a mean wallop—as she showed in the showdown with Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona. She doesn't talk softly, like President Theodore Roosevelt advised, but she carries a big stick just the same.

Anyway, if Ms Macapagal is forced to change careers, will she make a better singer than President? Replied a media star-turned politician: She cannot be any worse. There's no other way but up.

* * *

I am familiar with the tax credit scam exposed by Rep. Oscar Moreno the other day, having written several columns about it. To those not familiar with it, it is basically cheating government out of taxes twice or thrice.

To encourage exports, Philippine companies importing raw materials but exporting their finished products were given the privilege of getting a refund for the taxes they paid for their imports. The refunds were in the form of tax credit certificates which they can use to pay future taxes or sell to third parties at a discount for use to pay the latter's own taxes. Nothing wrong with that, but a syndicate found a window of opportunity for graft to make billions of pesos.

Companies that neither imported nor exported anything nor paid any taxes were able to get tax credit certificates. They sold these at a discount of the face value to companies that pay large taxes. Some of the companies that got certificates were closed or even fictitious. Thus, companies, fictitious or otherwise, that never paid taxes were refunded taxes they didn't pay, sold these to other companies that used them to pay their own taxes. The government was cheated out of taxes twice or thrice. It lost at least P5.3 billion in uncollected taxes in this scam.

The biggest seller of these tax credit certificates is the Chingkoe Group of Companies with more than 30 companies. Two of the biggest buyers are oil companies, Shell and, Petron which, ironically, is a government corporation and yet cheated the government out of taxes.

Evidence and prosecution of the cases should be quite simple. Did the companies pay taxes or not? Did they get tax refunds or not? Did they sell these refund certificates to other companies? And did these other companies use these certificates to pay their own taxes? These are all a matter of record. The charges appear to be open-and-shut cases.

But as Moreno revealed, the Ombudsman, in filing a consolidated case, did not include among the defendants the principals of the Chingkoe Group of Companies and of Shell and Petron. Moreover, Moreno alleged that the Ombudsman made the cases so weak that they would be dismissed, and spare the defendants from further prosecution under the principle of double jeopardy.

This is a scam where the culprits should be punished to the maximum and very quickly.

* * *

Will Edu Manzano please stop saying "You only banked..." in the game show "The Weakest Link"? That is wrong English. The correct English is "You banked only P10,000" or whatever amount was banked.

The word "only" is a modifier and should be placed immediately before the word modified, in this case the amount banked. Putting it in the wrong place changes the meaning of the whole sentence.

* * *

KAPIHAN NOTES: Topic in Monday's Kapihan sa Manila is the new dump in Rodriguez (formerly Montalban), Rizal.

Guests are Chair Benjamin Abalos of the Metro Manila Development Authority, Mayor Pedro Cuerpo of Rodriguez, and Dr. Pastor Cruz, leader of the alliance of Rodriguez residents opposing the dump in their municipality.

Disappointing

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

ANTICIPATING Vice President Teofisto Guingona's decision to resign as foreign secretary over a life-and-death issue, I thought I'd recall that he was the first person to officially ask Erap to be impeached. I thought I'd recall that he was one of the pillars of the impeachment trial, taking up the cause of restoring decency to the land with exceptional zeal and vigilance. I thought I'd say that the people who truly invested in the future of this country had every reason to want to make sure that future remained bright, or at least was not darkened by clouds that foreboded a storm.

Unlike those who merely stood idly by and benefited from the hard work of others, I thought to add. Understandably, they would think nothing about letting that hard work go to waste. Which explained the recklessness with which President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was single-handedly shoving the country back to the Dark Ages, by sanctioning American troops on Philippine soil. Which itself was but the precursor of America's renewed use of this country as staging ground for its war games, literally and figuratively.

But came Wednesday night, and Guingona, after having spent his dark night of the soul, ended up merely wrung and spent, not enervated and enlightened. After agonizing over the choice between principle and expedience, morality and legality, history and party line, he merely chose the latter. *Sayang* all that agonizing.

Guingona would justify his decision—"Are you mouse or man?" that is the question—by saying that he was bowing to the will of the justice department. Justice Secretary Hernando Perez had ruled that the President was well within her rights to allow American troops to stay longer than the four weeks allowed by the Visiting Forces Agreement for war games. Indeed, pretty much for as long as she likes. "The President wanted us to speak with one voice," Guingona would say. "She did not want us arguing. She wanted us to stand united. So I will not resign."

Well, the day Perez, who still has to answer Panfilo Lacson's charge that **he** owns undeclared assets in the United States, goes against President Macapagal's wishes is the day he shoots himself in the head. But quite apart from that, why bow to the wishes of the justice department? That department only clearly shows this government has adopted "Newspeak," the language of George Orwell's nightmarish "1984," characterized by things being the opposite of their names. We have a department of labor that is really the department of capital; a National Security Council that is the main cause of our insecurity; a law enforcement agency populated by criminals. And a justice department dedicated to fomenting iniquity.

Even on purely legal grounds, why in God's name—whom Ms Macapagal seems to think is Bush and not Yahweh—should the President have every legal right to mess around with the provisions of the VFA? Lest we forget, the VFA is the product of a Senate vote. It is a treaty, not an executive agreement. What makes it onerous in fact is that it is a treaty on our part while it is a mere executive agreement on the part of the Americans, as masochistic (on our part) an arrangement as you can hope to find. Why should the President be free to amend that treaty—which is what allowing US troops in an actual combat site over an indefinite period clearly is—without Senate consent?

But far more than that, Guingona is right to agree to speak with one voice, but he is wrong to agree to speak with one voice with Ms Macapagal. He should speak with one voice only with the people. As should the President: they both serve the people first and last. The people's voice can be heard very plainly in the voices of Claro M. Recto, Lorenzo, Tañada and Jose W. Diokno, who spent their lives fighting the scourge that was American military presence in this country. The people's voice can be heard very loudly in the speeches that rang in the Senate a decade ago, which put an end to US military bases in this country. The people's voice can be heard very eloquently in the two Edsas, which dreamed the dream of a free, sovereign and peaceful country.

Certainly, the people's voice **cannot** be heard in the voice of Diosdado Macapagal, the one president who completely uncannily—yet another proof this country is magic-realist—saw US military presence become an irritant to this country because of the killings of scavenging Filipinos in the bases. It was also, quite incidentally Diosdado who unleashed decontrol, the precursor of his daughter's "globalist" policies. Which even more uncannily mirrors the careers of the two American Bushes, the *pere* unleashing the Gulf War and the *fil* the overarching war against "international terrorism." The only difference is that both Bushes were elected president, only Diosdado was. You would think a leader who was not elected but became only the beneficiary of the hard work of others would feel morally obliged to value the fruits of that hard work. Not so this one.

We want to fight terrorism, let us fight the terror that has been the US military presence in this country, a monstrosity whose most palpable legacy is the toxic wastes that continue to murder children in Clark and Subic. We want to fight terrorism, let us fight the terror that is willingness of this country's leaders to scorn their patrimony and betray their nation's trust. We want to fight terrorism, let us fight the terror that has been this country's history of mendicancy and stupidity, our eagerness to embrace masochistic arrangements from the abject belief that we are the world's doormats, we were created only to feel the heels of other people's boots.

That is how to fight terrorism. The other kind is not anti-terrorism, it is suicide.

* * *

Comments are welcome at dequiros@vasia.com

Guingona's decision

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

THE DECISION of Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. to accept the authority of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to approve the joint Philippine-United States military exercises "Balikatan 2002" in Mindanao has averted a major foreign policy/security crisis in Ms Macapagal's one year old administration.

With Guingona deciding to stay as foreign secretary, the notion of party and Cabinet discipline prevailed and opponents of the deployment of US troops in Basilan to assist Filipino troops in fighting the Abu Sayyaf were denied an important ally in their campaign to block the deployment, dubbed as joint exercises within the framework of the 1999 Visiting Forces Agreement.

The National Security Council on Tuesday decided that the President had the authority to approve the exercises and that the war games were legal and constitutional within the framework of both the Mutual Defense Treaty and the VFA. The legal justification was provided by the justice secretary who ruled that "the President, as chief architect of foreign policy, can approve this exercise under the VFA."

Guingona accepted the decision, despite the fact that he held the view that the Balikatan 2002 exercises were not allowed by both the MDT and the VFA and went beyond the intentions of the MDT. He had also pointed out that under the VFA, all exercises under it had to be approved by the Council of Foreign Ministers, made up of the Philippine foreign secretary and the US secretary of state. The council had been bypassed in the preparation of the exercises, adding fuel to Guingona's resentment.

The justice department's ruling, in effect, handed the President the final authority for giving the go-ahead to the war games and formalized the bypassing of the council of ministers. In last Tuesday's NSC meeting, Guingona found himself isolated, with most members, including representatives of the political opposition, falling in line behind the justice department's ruling.

Guingona said he accepted the DOJ's opinion as the government's position, and in the interest of Cabinet solidarity, he had decided to remain in the Cabinet despite policy differences with the President and most of the Cabinet members.

Informed sources said that Guingona, who said he had been agonizing over the policy differences with the President, had come under a heavy siege from government supporters and colleagues in the majority party, Lakas-NUCD, asking him to stay in the Cabinet to avoid a break-up in his alliance with the President and opening a crack in the party. Guingona apparently heeded these appeals and gave the government a façade of unity at a time when it is undergoing increasing criticism over the US forces deployment, the President's style of leadership and her economic performance.

While the break-up and policy crisis were averted, the NSC decision had the effect of reducing Guingona's role in foreign policy direction and implementation, especially on the question of US forces deployment in Mindanao. The decision also closed the internal Cabinet debate over the deployment question and crystallized the debate over the policy of how much US military presence would be allowed in the Philippines in the pursuit of the US-led war on terrorism, which the Macapagal administration has backed. The Abu Sayyaf has been identified by the United States as part of the al-Qaida terrorist network.

The question of what Guingona would do in the controversy over the US deployment in the joint exercises was resolved with the understanding that he need not reopen the debate and he would avoid appearing at the Senate inquiry into the war games. Thus, in yesterday's hearings in the Senate defense committee on the US deployment, the government's position was presented by Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes and Justice Secretary Hernando Perez.

Guingona's decision not to break with the President was a disappointment to the nationalists, the Left and other political adversaries of the administration. They had hoped that his breakaway would give them a rallying symbol and an ally to oppose the exercises. Although administration officials have assured that the American forces are here to train Filipino soldiers in new weapons and technology to fight terrorist groups more effectively, and that these trainors would stay in the rear of Filipino troops operating in conflict zones in Basilan, the NSC decision did not resolve doubts over whether US forces would actively engage in combat with the Abu Sayyaf. These doubts stem from the declaration of Philippine authorities that if the US troops were fired upon, they could fire in self-defense.

The decision, however, has lifted legal obstacles against the war games going ahead, and facilitates the effort of the administration to broaden the support for its decision in Congress and with the public. Guingona will, however, be marginalized in the function of the DFA to oversee the implementation of the VFA in the exercises.

The decision has strengthened the hands of the administration in pushing its tough military action against the Abu Sayyaf, this time aided by US forces, under the rubric of the policy that puts the country behind the United States in the "war" on terrorism. What we have to watch for now is whether under this policy and the American deployment, the Abu Sayyaf can be crushed swiftly and, for a narrower objective, could save an American couple from captivity. If the decision achieves quick results, they will overcome nationalist and leftist opposition.

Mother of all street festivals

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IT was only while we were aboard the plane bound for Manila that we realized that we hadn't heard the phrase most associated with the Ati-atihan: *"Hala Bira! Walang pasma!"* (Roughly translated: Go on! Forget your tiredness!)

Other cities like Cebu and Iloilo may have lively and maybe even better organized street festivals like the Sinulog and Dinagyang, both of which are also in honor of the Sto. Niño. But the mother of all street festivals and still unmatched for sheer exuberance and spontaneity, is the Ati-atihan of Kalibo. Impressive indeed was the fact that, as streamers announced all over town, Kalibo was observing the 790th year of the Ati-atihan. The people's love for the Child Jesus is indeed fervent and enduring.

So while we may not have heard the endless chanting of "Hala Bira!" we did hear the marching groups chanting "Viva Sto. Niño!" I'm glad that despite the complaints of how commercialized the festival has become, Ati-atihan participants have apparently not lost the focus and primary reason for the event.

* * *

I HAD never experienced the Ati-atihan, so when Eden Divinagracia of the Philippine NGO Council dangled the possibility of taking part in this street fest at the end of a workshop for the media in Region 6, I jumped at the chance.

With Eden and two PNGOC staffers, Kukuk and Che, we hired a van and took the three-and-a-half hour land trip to Kalibo from Iloilo. It was dark by the time we arrived but everything had been readied for us by our host, Rebecca Mobo, widow of the late governor of Aklan, Ben Hur Mobo. She is also executive director of the Ben Hur Mobo Move Aklan Forward (the late governor's campaign slogan) Foundation, a member of the PNGOC.

Becs, as most everyone calls her, is a truly remarkable woman. At the time her husband passed away, they had seven children, the youngest of whom was still in grade school. When I ask how she managed to raise all of them, she merely laughs, though she explains that when she found herself having to put three children through college at the same time, she had to sell a parcel of land left by her husband.

While feasting on a "simple" dinner of crabs, prawns and *caldereta* at the lanai, we suddenly heard the tinkling of bells breaking the evening silence. We soon found the source in an apparition: a long-haired Yakan warrior in colorful, exotic gear, including a belt of brass chains and bells. It turned out to be Marco Puzon, now a program assistant at PHANSuP, or Philippine NGO Support Program, but a long-time friend and colleague of the Mobos who's been taking part in the Ati-atihan for many years.

* * *

WHILE Marco's stories of the frenzied street dancing whet our appetite for the street scene, Becs and her daughter Mabeth, who is married to Ibajay Mayor Roberto Garcia Jr., deemed it the wiser course to skip the public dance at Magsaysay Park and instead join the governor's dance at the Provincial Training Center.

Tourists flying into Kalibo before driving to Caticlan and thence to Boracay may know Kalibo as primarily a sleepy provincial town, which it is for most of the year. But when Ati-atihan season commences, Kalibo turns into party central, with 10 days of non-stop revelry until the culmination on the third Sunday of January.

Before proceeding to the dance, Mabeth drove us through Kalibo's downtown, where the streets were teeming with people. There was a free public concert sponsored by a soft-drinks company, and because of the crowds, we couldn't even reach the vicinity of the park.

At the training center, we were immediately roped into a "snake dance," and found ourselves gyrating with the likes of Gov. Joeben Miraflores and his wife Lulu, Rep. Billie Venus Calizo, former Rep. Allen Quimpo and his brother, Albert, who just happens to be the father of INQUIRER's Margie Quimpo-Espino.

* * *

THE NEXT day, Sunday, was the culmination of the Ati-atihan, so we eagerly made our way to the central part of town. But even before we joined the parades, we were distracted by vendors peddling temporary tattoos, pendants, headgear and other paraphernalia.

Properly arrayed, we inched our way to the Cathedral and then to the home of Becs' friends, which stands along the route of the dancing groups' procession. On the way, though, we beheld the full glory of the Ati-atihan revelry: dancers covered in soot and even body paint (a group was even painted silver and gold), costumes fashioned out of coconut fronds, leaves, palms, tinfoil and bright colored cloth. Scattered among the street dancers, swaying to their own beat, were individuals holding their own Sto. Niño images aloft and dressed in all manner of bizarre and colorful wear, including one man who strutted about in nothing but an adult diaper.

Finally, we reached the home of Becs' friends, Manolita "Baby" Acevedo and Emily Casiño, mother of the better-known Teddy of Bayan fame.

Amid the deafening beat of drums and tinkle of chimes, some groups marched to literally a different beat. One barangay marched decorously in everyday wear, carrying placards, one of which read: "Let us not dance like pagans, but to give glory to God." Another delegation made do with bamboo instruments, led by streamers proclaiming their affiliation with Bayan Muna and the LFS, and carrying placards demanding "Education for All!"

It's this spirit of free-for-all democracy and participation, I guess, that makes Ati-atihan the liveliest festival of all.

Rereading Pigafetta and Legazpi

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

RESEARCHING on the origins of the Santo Niño de Cebu for last Wednesday's column made me read beyond Antonio Pigafetta's narration of the 1521 Magellan expedition. It was an experience to reread Miguel Lopez de Legazpi's account of his voyage to the Philippines from 1564-1565 as well as an account of the character and conditions of the inhabitants of the Philippines written in 1569. In these documents Legazpi relates that when they arrived in Cebu, Rajah Tupas, son of Humabon, sent word that he would meet the Spaniards. He stood them up. From their ship Legazpi watched the inhabitants of Cebu running about—men prepared for war while women and children left their dwellings, taking their valuables. If this was the case, why was the Santo Niño abandoned in a humble hut? Was the image considered like God or venerated like a pre-colonial idol? Was it in a sacred space or the queen's dollhouse decorated with flowers?

After reading these texts, I am left with more questions than answers, but the search for the citations on the finding of the Santo Niño led me to reflect on Filipinos past and present. Remember there were no clear geographic and political boundaries at the time—what we know as the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia today was all part of an old Malay world in pre-colonial times.

In 1564, for example, Legazpi related his experience with the natives of what is now Guam. It was part of a group of islands the Magellan expedition knew as the Ladrones [thieves] since the inhabitants were quick with their hands. Legazpi was met with boats with naked men inviting them to go ashore for supplies. The crowd estimate was 400 to 500 people that surrounded the ships offering goats, chickens, potatoes, rice, yams, bananas, coconuts, even lechon. Others traded gold, ginger and other spices that would fetch a good price in Europe. Naturally, the Spaniards made fun of the natives by paying for goods with playing cards. The face cards being in great demand. Once, they wore woolen garments around their heads and necks which were traded with the natives who wore these the same way. I imagine they were a hilarious sight—socks on the ears, underwear on the head, etc.

It was also discovered that the natives liked nails! I would trade rusty nails for gold anytime, but the table of values was not very clear. It reached a point when nails were pried from the ships and taken without payment. Perhaps the nails were later melted and fashioned into arrow or spearheads, maybe even daggers and swords? The barter trade seemed lopsided in favor of Legazpi until the Spaniards discovered that the rice sold to them by weight was not what it seemed. Packages of rice on top revealed stones or straws underneath. Wax was mixed with sand, etc. He who laughs last indeed laughs the best. Then there was petty theft. It is depressing to realize that some of these pre-colonial business practices are still found in the Philippines today in more sophisticated forms.

Legazpi was writing primarily for Philip II who ruled a vast empire from a small desk in Spain. Legazpi's report is generally favorable pointing to the material benefits Spain could harvest from the Philippines—gold, cinnamon, pearls, etc. Better still, the people could be conquered by "good treatment and a display of kindness." For a 21st century Filipino, the 16th-century documents have more to offer than stale data because the comments on the character of the ancient Filipinos are still relevant:

"This archipelago is composed of many islands. Some of them are large, and most of them thickly populated, especially on the seacoast and all along the rivers. The mountains are also inhabited..."

Textbooks in use in Philippine schools cannot even give us the exact number of islands in the archipelago. We have a rough number—more or less 7,000 islands—that changes whether you count at high tide or low tide. Aside from the physical properties of the Philippines, Legazpi noted:

"The inhabitants of these islands are not subjected to any law, king or lord. Although there are large islands in some regions, the people do not act in concert or obey any ruling body; but each man does whatever he pleases, and takes care only of himself and his slaves...No person favors another, unless it is for his own interest; on the other hand, if a man in some time of need shelters a relative or a brother in his house, supports him and provides him with food and shelter for a few days, he will consider that relative as a slave from that time on. They recognize neither lord nor rule; and even their slaves are not under great subjection to their masters and lords, serving them only under certain conditions, and when and how they please...."

The above sounds strangely familiar. We can find in Legazpi's report current Philippine values as described and defined by anthropologists in the 1960s. From the above we can make out *utang na loob* which can never be repaid. There is the so-called SIR or smooth interpersonal relations observed long before we became Filipinos. Early Spanish accounts of the Philippines are often overlooked in our search for that elusive thing we know as Filipino identity.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Miracle of the rain

COMMENTARY

Bernardo V. Lopez

ANOTHER story has emerged about Sr. Raquel Reodica, RVM, the healer featured by "Magandang Gabi Bayan (MGB)" late last year and to be featured again by GMA-7 in February. In the few weeks after the new year, an "explosion" of healings of cancer, heart, kidney, liver ailments has occurred, that it would seem that this is not the year of the horse but the year of our Lord, who has showered the nation with His blessings, for reasons I do not know. Perhaps the nation will truly be a global spiritual center, as Medjugorje predicted.

After the "MGB" feature, visitors quintupled that Sister Raquel moved out of the rear healing center in the RVM compound in Novaliches to the larger front courtyard, which she has duly labelled the "open cathedral."

The open cathedral is, however, subject to rain and intense sun. The first time it rained, Sister Raquel prayed aloud through the karaoke, "Lord, can You not postpone the rain so we can have our healing session?" Instantly, the rain stopped and the hundreds of people attending clapped. Then, in another session came the intense sun. The kaimito and mango trees failed to shade the overflowing cathedral completely. Sister prayed, "Lord, it is too hot for many. Can You not give some shade?" Instantly, clouds blocked the sun, but it did not rain. Again, the people clapped. Finally, on a hot windless day, Sister Raquel prayed, "Lord, please give us some natural electric fan." Instantly, the wind came, blowing continuously. Again, the people were awed by the "aircon" (air-continue).

Jan. 16, four days before the feast of the Sto. Niño or Holy Child, was a Wednesday, the day Sister Raquel would douse people with water, one pail per person, in her healing sessions. She had a water tank erected right beside the altar. A soft shower came. Sister Raquel prayed, "Lord, please stop the rain for our healing session." The rain, however, became a heavy downpour. The Sto. Niño image was placed on a marble altar. The people and the image were drenched to the bone. The people said that perhaps the Holy Child also wanted to have a healing bath like them.

Sister Raquel told the crowd to pray the "Our Father" aloud. The people looked up to the sky with closed eyes, the rain pouring on their faces. They opened their palms toward the sky and prayed together aloud. Many were healed on that day, as they reported on the following Saturday healing session. Testimonials spoke of asthma, jaundice and hemorrhoids instantly vanishing. The people called it the miracle of the rain *"paligo ng langit* (shower from heaven)." The children shouted, *"Ang Batang Hesus naligo rin* (the Holy Child has joined us in the healing bath)." Sister Raquel admired the strong unquestioning faith of the people.

People noticed that Sister Raquel's habit was not wet at all in the heavy downpour. The next day, many people called and told her there were no wet roads outside. It seemed the heavy downpour was limited to the RVM compound. If Medjugorje and Fatima had their "miracle of the sun," Novaliches now has its "miracle of the rain." For the sceptics, perhaps it is better you see for yourself.

Then came the "miracle of the wallet." In the past, people placed on top of the marble altar their towels, drinking water and even medicine to be blessed by Sister Raquel. On one particular healing session, a lady, who had a financial problem, placed her wallet on the altar. Sister was surprised as this was the first time a wallet would be blessed. After two weeks, the lady came back and told the crowd she received an unexpected P88,000 and was able to pay off her loans and house repair.

The next healing session, the marble altar was overflowing with wallets. Recession has made many Filipino wallets thin. Sister Raquel blessed hundreds of wallets and bags of all shapes and sizes. The next Saturday, there was an avalanche of testimonies of unexpected income. A mother said her son asked for her wallet and placed P10,000 in it. Normally, she received only P500 to P1,000 from him. Another witness who recently had an operation she could not afford said her wallet was now always full and never empty.

Irony of ironies. Sister Raquel decided to have her own wallet blessed by her the next time, as the funds of the retreat house she ran were drying up. Unfortunately, she forgot to bring her wallet. After the blessing, a man came up to her, an executive of SM Mall, saying, "Sister, I will give you a blessing." It was her turn to receive a blessing. He handed her a check of P10,000. Sister Raquel did not need a wallet.

The story is not over. A lady decided to place a piece of paper on top of the pile of wallets and bags on the altar. The paper contained a list of people who owed her. She was praying they would pay her back. The next session, she reported that three did pay and a few more called out of the blue, saying sorry they had not paid but would pay very soon. And so, piles of IOU lists came next at the marble altar.

This marble altar is a story all its own. A young businessman from Romblon who made marble furniture came to Sister Raquel. He was at the "pre-departure" area, having five terminal diseases, cancer of the prostate, advanced ulcers, diabetes, double kidney failure and high blood pressure. It is unimaginable how one man could have so many diseases. I would say he was in the departure area. The Lord was kind to him. In a few weeks, he was completely healed.

In appreciation, he donated the marble altar, one I have never seen before, a good two-inch solid aqua-marine marble top held by a single stout solid marble base, no parts, no frills, just good old marble, the best money could buy. But it was nothing compared to his rebirth, a new life in the Lord.

The stories of healing overflow in such a short time for some reason. But reasons are not needed because healing is its own reason. There must be a hidden message in all these. But life and rebirth and health are all their own reasons.

The open cathedral has the sky as roof, trees as pillars and rough stony ground as floor. Yet, it seems to be immune to the forces of nature, but only when there are people around. Sister Raquel says the cathedral is not made of roof and pillars, it is made of people in prayer. For those who need help, call 930-3902 or send an e-mail for directions.

* * *

Bernardo V. Lopez is a freelance journalist.

* * *

Comments are welcome at eastwind@edsamail.com.ph

THEY SAID

Without charisma

"He does not have charisma, he is only part of a machine."
—Former Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago on Sen. Panfilo Lacson's prospects in the next presidential election

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

LETTERS

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

No DOJ statement for Misuari exile

JUSTICE Isagani Cruz predicted it fittingly when he said he hoped I would deny the item in his Saturday column on the alleged exile of Nur Misuari.

For the record, I have never issued any statement about Misuari's exile nor have I urged him to avail himself of exile as an option to evade prosecution of the rebellion charges he is facing before a Jolo court.

I believe the full force of the law should be enforced in his case not only to ferret out the truth on his alleged involvement in the attacks in Jolo and Zamboanga City and other charges, but to give justice as well to more than 100 people killed and hundreds others wounded, displaced, terrorized by acts of violence that threaten our democracy.

I reiterate the assurance of the Macapagal administration that Misuari will be given a fair and equitable trial, and all rights due an accused will be extended to him in the trial proceedings.—**HERNANDO B. PEREZ, secretary, Department of Justice**

Better President than those after Marcos

I AM for giving President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo her term to combat poverty, joblessness and low wages. No politician in one year has yet succeeded to fill the gaps in our country created by these bothersome problems still around ever since.

There is no good reason to replace Ms Macapagal. So far she is a better President than all her predecessors combined since Ferdinand Marcos. Our people-powered democracy works since 1986, no matter what the critics say. This is what we are currently celebrating.

However, a caveat about those close to Ms Macapagal. The civil society groups, especially those still outside trying to get some juicy government positions, raising coup rumors and those inside but have started to abuse their positions by reviving a variant of crony capitalism or protection racket, e.g., the P1.4-billion peace bond that looks legal from outside but highly reprehensible. The Code-NGO, a coalition of economically focused NGOs is behind this project, and seemed to have lost track of the political nature of NGO militancy: anti-corruption, anti-abuse of public position, anti-acquisitiveness at the expense of others in the guise of income-generating economics for the poor.—**RAUL E. SEGOVIA, chair, Citizens' Alliance for Consumer Protection, 2564-C Zamora St., Pasay City**

DOH budget ₱11.5B plus

THIS is a rejoinder to the letter of Jerry R. Manlangit on Jan. 8 titled, "Gov't budget for health is sick."

Manlangit said that the allocation for the Department of Health in the 2002 national budget is a "very emaciated P11.3 billion." He said that the DOH should have been given a much bigger slice or about 5 percent of the pie.

We would like to inform the public and Manlangit that the total 2002 budget approved by Congress for the DOH amounts to P11.5 billion and not P11.3 billion. More important, this does not include those for other health services, such as those already devolved to the various provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays. The P11.5 billion also excludes subsidies for specialty hospitals such as the Lung Center of the Philippines, National Kidney and Transplant Institute, Philippine Children's Medical Center and Philippine Heart Center.

The bottom line is that health services are not solely provided by the DOH. Thus, the government has also earmarked funds for other institutions which are not under the DOH as well as to local governments.—**ARIELA C. DELA TRINIDAD, director IV, Training and Information Service, Department of Budget and Management, Malacañang, Manila**

UP Diliman is the ideal SEAG venue

MC BLAUTA (Letters, 1/21/02), a resident of Laguna, believes that his province, specifically its capital town, Sta. Cruz, where the Governor San Luis Sports Complex is located, is the ideal site for the 2003 Southeast Asian Games which will be hosted by the Philippines. I disagree. I think, and for many good reasons, the ideal site is the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman Quezon City. Here are some of the good reasons:

1. We must learn from past mistakes where we constructed multi-million sports facilities only to have them become "white elephants," such as those put up by the government for the Palarong Pambansa. We must make sure that the facilities will have a captive clientele to use them and people who will manage and operate them after the games. These will be readily available among the students and residents of the campus and its environs, while management can be handled by the UP administration. These ready clients and facilities managers are not assured in Laguna and Clark in Pampanga.

2. Multiple use of facilities to ensure a fast and reliable return of investments must be a prime consideration. The sports facilities in UP can be used for physical education classes, recreation of campus residents and those living in neighboring localities, training of athletes, and in the education of PE teachers, coaches and other sports personnel. UP has the faculty to handle this kind of training. Laguna and Clark cannot claim the same.

3. There are enough dormitories in UP to accommodate 3,000 athletes within the campus. In addition to this, there is a health service (hospital) and medical and dental personnel, several canteens and eating places, a couple of banks, a post office and two telegram outlets. Security is not a problem because the campus is enclosed and there is an existing security force.

4. There are sports facilities such as those found at the Ateneo de Manila University, New Era University, Marikina and Quezon City sports complexes, the Araneta Coliseum, and even at the PSC's Philsports Complex in Pasig which can serve as training/competition venues. Practice venues, in addition to the competition venues are a must for international competition and these are not available in Laguna and Clark.

5. Media coverage will not be a problem since most of the television stations are located in Quezon City.

6. Many shopping centers are found in Quezon City and, as part of the culture of international sports competitions, there must be an abundance of nightlife services. Quezon City can rival those in Clark or anywhere in the Philippines.

7. Investments in sports facilities and equipment in UP will give this premier academic institution the resources it needs to become a Games Village for future international competitions. It will likewise contribute to the quest of the state university for world-class status by the time it observes its centennial year in 2008.—**APARICIO H. MEQUI, president, Philippine Association of Physical Educators Inc., 109 Valenzuela St., UP Diliman, Quezon City**

Exacting standards for old broadcasters

CONGRATULATIONS. The series on radio—"AM/FM"—in the INQUIRER was very perceptive and comprehensive. It is unfortunate that I missed some installments. I particularly liked your evaluation of and comments on today's newscasters and DJs. (If it's not too much to ask, would you care to fax to me a complete set of the piece?)

Being one of the very last few living relics of the "Golden Age" of broadcasting, I can tell you that, reckoned against the infinitely hefty and exacting standards some half a century ago, an overwhelming majority of those you hear and see on radio and TV today would never have qualified. For instance, during our time, nobody got to do a newscast unless he or she had earned the privilege by dint of competent hard work and above all, seniority. They did not pick just anybody off the street and make him do a newscast like they do now. No rookie ever got to do a newscast. In fact, many in our batch ended their broadcasting careers without having done even a single news report.

Unless one had earned seniority, he was not allowed to give even just the station break. It was that exacting. You see, during our time, there were no such things as recorded (canned) station identification jingles/breaks. All station identification and commercials were done live.

There were many nuances of professional discipline then that are sadly taken for granted today by the so-called new-wave broadcasters.

If you care to know more about the "Golden Age" of broadcasting, get in touch.—**RAMON ALFONSO A. FUENTES, P.O. Box 138, Araneta Center, Cubao Quezon City 1135**

Apprehensions about SMC cassava plantation

AN OMINOUS business project is brewing in the province of Isabela. Known as the San Miguel Corp. (SMC) Cassava Plantation Project, this will yet be the first and biggest root crop plantation in the country. The plantation will cover 150,000 hectares of plain and sloping agricultural land almost equal to 12 percent of the total land area of Isabela. It will affect 12 municipalities and will displace an estimated 30,000 families of farmers and indigenous people.

The objective of the project is to produce and process cassava as raw material and export crop of SMC controlled by Danding Cojuangco. Flour, feed meal and yeast for beer production are among the products that can be made from cassava.

Given the characteristics of the cassava plant and the size of the project, it is feared that the project will have a tremendous impact on the health and environment of the target area. Agricultural plantation involves the intensive use of chemical inputs, such as pesticide and fertilizer, to produce a mono crop. Heavy use of these chemicals have been proven to gravely affect the health of the farmers handling them and the local environment like what have been documented in banana and pineapple plantations in Bukidnon and Davao in Mindanao. There are alarming cases of low fertility and sterility among men and high incidence of poisoning and toxic-related diseases in the surrounding communities.

Cassava as a root crop has a cropping season of six to eight months. It extracts larger quantities of nutrients and mineral from the soil than rice, corn or mongo. Since it needs to be planted deeper into the soil, it can cause serious erosion problems after the harvest season, particularly in sloping areas. Erosion and high soil nutrient extraction will then require more chemical inputs in order to compensate for the lost minerals in every cropping season. Continued and more intensive practice of chemical farming will further degrade the soil quality of the land upon which the livelihood of an overwhelming peasant population of the province has depended. In two to three years of production, there will be an increasing amount of chemical inputs as production yield decreases.

Under the project scheme, SMC will supply and loan the farmers the needed chemical inputs and seeds valued at P16,000 per hectare at an interest of 36 percent per cropping. All of the cassava produced will only be sold to and bought by SMC which will dictate the price of the crop per volume. The Valley Planters Development Corp. (Vapdeco), a cooperative that was set up by Conjuangco and Isabela Gov. Benjamin Dy, will handle all the transactions between the farmers and SMC.

The potentially destructive effects of the cassava plantation on the health and environment of the communities will significantly erode whatever economic benefits that can be derived from the project in just a short time. Top this with the usurious and pretentious nature of the trading and financing mechanisms that have been put up, Isabela farmers are in for more feudal and semi-feudal exploitation and poverty in the not so distant future.—**FRANCES QUIMPO, national coordinator, Kalikasan (People's Network for the Environment), 175-B Kamias Ext. Rd., Sikatuna Village, Quezon City**

Homegrown sports heroes

I AM happy for Efren "Bata" Reyes for receiving the Athlete of the Year award from the Philippine Sports Association. He is homegrown and excelled in spite of the disadvantages of his early years.

Dorothy Joy Delasin is another matter. She is Filipino-American but her citizenship is American. Her priorities will always lie where she was nurtured. I admire her for her talent and grit in the golf course but if you notice in the televised tournaments that she won, her country is identified as the United States and not the Philippines. She represents the best of American talents and not Filipino expertise. I can understand why she will not be able to participate in the Asiad because she has other priorities. To quote your story, "Delasin said she is vying for a slot for the United States team in the Solheim Cup."

Our sports officials should look inward, not outward when they try to find sporting heroes. It takes time and money to develop these heroes. We always look outward for any prominent athlete abroad with any hint of Filipino blood and adopt them as our own even though they do not owe us anything for their nurture and development as sporting heroes.

We are a people who like to take shortcuts. We should get rid of this mode of thinking. Let us nurture our own first and then let us proudly declare that they are homegrown heroes!—**RAUL I. LIMOS, Angeles City, Pampanga**

Legislative circus imperils absentee vote

COMMENTARY

Jeremaiah M. Opiniano
Institute on Church and Social Issues

UNDAUNTED by the somnolence of the House of Representatives' session hall, a group of lobbyists diligently attended numerous plenary debates for the Absentee Voting Bill (which would give voting rights to migrant Filipinos). Leading the lobby group was Ellene Sana, advocacy officer of the Kapisanan ng mga Kamag-anak ng Migranteng Manggagawang Pilipino (Kakammpi), whose admirable dedication and "obsession" for the rights of overseas Filipinos is effervescent—even in times of adversity.

But my amiable friend's zealousness, to my surprise, was transformed into depression, disappointment and anger. Sana, together with Noel Esquela of eLAGDA, people from the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), and other lobbyists were deeply frustrated over the turn of events at Congress on absentee voting.

If you will recall, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo urged Congress to prioritize absentee voting during her State of the Nation Address. Yet, the Absentee Voting Bill is currently in the freezer in the House. Meanwhile, the Senate has yet to approve the measure on first reading.

The more frustrating branch is the House. Says Esquela, "Admittedly some of our bill sponsors may neither be perceptively profound, or seemingly as outstanding rhetorically as some of the opposition (legislators). Neither may some of them be said to be as legally erudite, nor as experienced in political maneuverings as a handful of others on the floor. They may even appear at times fazed by the sheer number of reservations and apprehensions aired by opposing quarters."

The House committee on suffrage (with Iloilo Rep. Augusto Syjuco as chair) spearheaded the preparation of the bill. However, the bill, despite being polished already, will be rewritten by a majority-minority ad hoc team in order "to incorporate safeguards," explains foreign relations committee chair Rep. Jose Apolinario Lozada.

Worse, many lawmakers now want to implement the absentee-voting mechanism by 2007, and *not* by 2004. With the absence of any "cogent, logical, objective or practical reason" for the proposed deferment, Esquela said lawmakers think absentee voting will benefit President Macapagal (who is expected to run for the presidency in 2004). This controversial point is the new facet of criticisms on absentee voting, aside from guarding the sanctity of the ballot, determining who are qualified to vote and the scope of absentee voting, and the designing of ways how to conduct absentee voting.

The House would have approved the bill last month, as Speaker Jose de Venecia himself promised. But since many congressmen were tied to the year-ending bicameral meeting for the 2002 national budget, there was a lack of quorum and so deliberations will continue this January.

A flurry of e-mail messages from Filipinos overseas followed, most especially coming from a group of overseas Filipinos who was here last August 2001 in a show of force in both chambers of Congress. The e-mail senders were disgruntled over the turn of events, especially of the plan to have absentee voting only by 2007.

"It has been 14 long years of waiting for Congress to act! Enough of the dilly-dallying! Enough of the excuses! Justice delayed is justice denied! We (overseas Filipinos) want our fundamental rights and dignity as citizens in the 2004 elections," went the statement of the Global Coalition for the Political Empowerment of Overseas Filipinos or Empower.

You cannot blame overseas Filipinos for their agitation. Their sincerest wish is the chance to fully participate in the task of rebuilding Philippine democracy through voting. That is why absentee voting has been promoted as a non-partisan measure in both chambers.

But the never-ending concerns about cheating and political partisanship are speculative and simplistic excuses. The central issue here is not the feared partiality of electoral exercises (and its tainting of the polls), but the exercise of fundamental freedoms. Because of these developments, there is now the fear that time is running out for the smooth first exercise of absentee voting two years from now (or worse, its possible deferment to 2007).

Patience, spanning more than 14 years, and hope have been the motivations of many of the lobbyists and advocates for overseas Filipinos. Hope for absentee voting rose because of Ms Macapagal's Sona, and when De Venecia and Senate President Franklin Drilon gave their assurances. Now that the lobby effort has come to this familiar situation, the end result might just be another legislative circus putting an important measure in peril.

For this scenario, Sana encouraged us to be more watchful and employ varied means of getting the message across. We see a situation wherein legislators remain deaf even if messages directed at them are loudly bellowed out both here and from different corners of the globe. While we appreciate the lawmakers' concern to ensure a smooth absentee-voting mechanism, overseas Filipinos cannot wait any longer.

In this tedious absentee-voting lobbying exercise, Esquela shared with us one value that has sustained the advocacy: "It is the *simple hope* that a bill so fundamental and so far-reaching as this can, will and should survive even the 'direst' of legislative givens." As we return to the hallowed halls of Congress to get back to work, despite the odds, may our continued persistence and patience pull us through.

Strict conditions for La Mesa access route to Rodriguez landfill

SOME time in the third quarter of 2001, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo called a meeting which I attended and the President asked if the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System can grant a right-of-way for a road to be built through the La Mesa water shed to provide access to the proposed Montalban (now Rodriguez) landfill. The MWSS agreed on the following conditions:

1. The proposed road should pass through the perimeter of the watershed.

2. A parallel concrete hollow block wall shall be constructed along the road to prevent contamination from spilled garbage and surface-drainage water.

3. Complete plans and specifications for the proposed road as well as the design of the sanitary landfill shall be submitted to the MWSS for approval.

4. An environmental compliance certificate shall be secured from the proper authorities.

All the above has been relayed to the mayor of Rodriguez, the Metro Manila Development Authority and to the National Economic Development Authority. To date, as far as I know, the conditions mentioned have not been met. Now it is announced in the papers that the access road has been formally opened.

I have since resigned as MWSS administrator and this matter is now the concern of my successor. I trust that proper measures are undertaken to safeguard the integrity of the La Mesa Reservoir through which most of the water for Metro Manila passes.—**JOSE F. MABANTA, former administrator, Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System**

PRINCESS
PEACE RALLY
KATOTOHANAN AT KATARUNGAN
PARA SA MAMAMAYAN NG KABACAN

BOTICA PRINCESS
HUSTISYA
kay MAYOR BATAGA
KATOTOHANAN

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HON. CHAIRMAN ALFREDO BENIPAYO AND COMMISSIONERS OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

"THE COMELEC MUST NOT SUBVERT THE PEOPLE'S WILL"

Last Jan. 21, 2002, the Commission on Elections in Manila proclaimed Luzviminda Tan as the new Mayor of the Municipality of Kabacan, Cotabato replacing Mayor Wilfredo Bataga.

This development should have made me happy as Luzviminda Tan, a candidate of the PDP-Laban, was aligned with our local party Lihok Cotabato and supported me in the last elections.

On the other hand, Mayor Bataga who is supposed to be on his second term now, BETRAYED ME in the last elections when he turned his back on his Governor and supported my political adversary.

I could merely keep silent and allow Luz Tan to take over the leadership of Kabacan and I would have exacted revenge on Bataga.

But after a thorough soul-searching, I decided that I could not allow an injustice to be perpetrated against the people of Kabacan.

For those unfamiliar with Cotabato, let me point out that Kabacan, one of the 18 towns (and one city) in the province, is the seat of the University of Southern Mindanao. It is therefore a University Town and the people are highly literate and well-informed.

In the last elections, three candidates vied for the position of Mayor and they were Mayor Bataga (NPC), retired army Colonel Beinvinido Flores (Lakas-NUCD) and Luzviminda Tan (PDP-Laban).

Bataga received 11,444 votes and Tan had 5,633. Please take note that the margin between Bataga and Tan is 5,811 votes, more than the votes received by Tan from the whole municipality.

Bataga was proclaimed winner on May 27, 2001 by the Municipal Board of Canvassers headed by Election Officer Akmad L. Dumama and witnessed by then Provincial Election Officer Atty. Jose Jalandoni.

But I learned later on that Tan asked the COMELEC through SPC No. 01-189 to annul the proclamation of Bataga with the claim that the results in 72 precincts in Poblacion Kabacan proper, representing roughly ONE-HALF of the total number of voters, were irregular and written by ONE AND THE SAME PERSON.

On Sept. 24, 2001, the 2nd Division of the COMELEC, relying on the testimony of a so-called NBI Handwriting Expert who said that the returns in the 72 questioned precincts were prepared by ONE AND THE SAME PERSON, issued a resolution annulling the results from the said precincts. The testimony of the teachers of the watchers, of the police and of the Municipal Board of Canvassers were disregarded and the "expert" testimony of ONE NBI handwriting analyst prevailed. That resolution started a series of events that led to yesterday's proclamation by the COMELEC of Luz Tan as the new Mayor.

MR. CHAIRMAN and Honorable Commissioners of the COMELEC this decision is WRONG.

I am not going to go into a detailed argument but will only raise two points for you to understand that you are committing an injustice and subverting the will of the people of Kabacan and the Province of Cotabato:

1. The 72 precincts where the results were allegedly prepared by ONE AND THE SAME PERSON (according to the so-called handwriting expert) that gave Mayor Bataga a landslide victory are found in the POBLACION PROPER of this UNIVERSITY TOWN. It might be possible for cheating to occur in remote barangays where armed groups could intimidate the voters and the election officers, but not in the town center and certainly not in the presence of highly-educated people that comprise the University Town. Besides, the PNP did not report any untoward incident in Kabacan on Election Day.
2. Please remember that Mayor Bataga did not support me in the last elections and in fact campaigned hard for my political adversary. If he indeed ordered ONE AND THE SAME PERSON to prepare the returns in those 72 precincts, what could have prevented him from ordering that ONE AND THE SAME PERSON to include the name of his candidate and ensure the victory of his bet for Governor in those precincts? But the FACT YOUR HONOR IS THAT I WON BY LANDSLIDE in those same precincts and in the whole of Kabacan.

Mayor Bataga is a victim of a sleight of hand by some people in the who are experts in the tampering of the election results in exchange for favors and rewards.

Added to this, Bataga and his lawyers got drowned in the legal mumbo-jumbo.

As I have said, the unseating of Mayor Bataga could have given me endless satisfaction as I have to admit that until today I still feel bitter over his betrayal in the last elections.

BUT MR. CHAIRMAN AND HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS this is not about Mayor Bataga and Governor Piñol. This is about the will of the people of Kabacan which is being subverted simply because of some people may have gained from this activity and because of the inferior legal arguments presented by Bataga and his group.

I am doing this because we the leaders of the Province have worked so hard to restore people's confidence in government and brazen acts to subvert the people's will such as this will certainly erode their trust in OUR GOVERNMENT.

MAYOR BATAGA COULD BETRAY ME AGAIN IN THE NEXT ELECTIONS. I DON'T CARE. BUT I SIMPLY CANNOT BETRAY THE PEOPLE OF KABACAN. AS THE LEADER OF MY PEOPLE, I CANNOT ALLOW AN INJUSTICE TO BE PERPETRATED AGAINST ANYONE OF THEM.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND HON. COMMISSIONERS OF THE COMELEC: COULD YOU IN CONSCIENCE BETRAY THE PEOPLE BY SUBVERTING THEIR WILL?

In view of this predicament, I am appealing that the following actions be made:

1. That the COMELEC Chairman and the Commissioners order an immediate review of this case and order the OPENING OF THE QUESTIONED BALLOT BOXES TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WERE ACTUALLY PREPARED BY ONE AND THE SAME PERSON upon receipt of a petition for such course of action.

   The opening of the ballot boxes is the only remedy to this serious political crisis in Kabacan as this would erase any and all claims and counterclaims on the regularity or irregularity of the election returns in the questioned 72 precincts.
2. For the COMELEC Chairman to order the investigation of COMELEC personnel and officials involved in irregularities that result in subverting the will of the electorate.

I am also asking the Philippine National Police and the Philippine

Army not to be a party to this electoral farce and refrain from using violence in the installation of Luzviminda Tan. Let the COMELEC Commissioner who authored this act of injustice come to Cotabato and resolve this problem.

I am asking the Senate and the House of Congress to initiate an investigation into this electoral irregularity and if possible start Impeachment Proceedings against erring COMELEC officials so we could restore people's trust in government.

I am extending my apologies to Luz Tan and her family and her supporters but I cannot be a party to this act of injustice.

I am calling on the people of Kabacan to remain vigilant and to ensure that your voices are heard.

THE PEOPLE'S VOICE MUST BE HEARD!
THEIR WILL MUST BE SUPREME!

GOVERNOR MANNY PIÑOL
Province of Cotabato
January 22, 2002

MANIFESTO OF SUPPORT TO MAYOR WILFREDO BATAGA

We, the undersigned Mayors in the province of Cotabato hereby declare that:

1. We are committed to support Mayor Wilfredo Bataga of Kabacan because we believe that he is the true and rightful winner in the last elections.
2. We attest to the fact that as leaders of the neighboring towns of Kabacan, no untoward incident happened in Kabacan on election day.
3. We are worried that the decision of the COMELEC to unseat a popular mayor would result in a problematic situation in that municipality.
4. We are alarmed by the reports that the unseating of Mayor Bataga was a result of manipulation by some COMELEC officials in exchange for several million pesos.
5. We are asking the COMELEC to order the immediate opening of the ballot boxes in the 72 questioned precincts to determine whether there was indeed an irregularity as claimed by Mayor Bataga's political opponent.
6. We declare that we have nothing against Ms. Luzviminda Tan and that if she is indeed the rightful winner, we would gladly welcome her to our ranks.
7. We are appealing to HER EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO TO DIRECT THE PNP AND THE ARMY NOT TO USE FORCE in enforcing the unjust COMELEC resolution unseating Mayor Bataga and installing Luzviminda Tan as it might result in bloodshed.
8. We support the position of our Governor, Hon. Manny Piñol, that the VOICE OF THE PEOPLE MUST BE HEARD AND THAT THEIR WILL IS SUPREME.

Hon. Rogelio Taliño
Mayor, Carmen
President, Mayor's Leagı

Mayor Ronaldo Pader
Mayor, Libungan
Vice Pres., Mayor's League

Hon. Oscar Valdevieso
Mayor, Matalam

Hon. Luigi Cuerpo
Mayor, M'lang

Hon. Herminio Roquero
Mayor, Pigcawayan

Hon. Ernesto Concepcion
Mayor, Alamada

Hon. Rodolfo Peñafiel
Mayor, Tulunan

Hon. Onofre Respicio
Mayor, Makilala

Hon. Romeo Araña
Mayor, Midsayap

Hon. Vicente Sorupia
Mayor, Aleosan

Hon. Angelita Pelonio
Mayor, Magpet

Hon. Jaime Mahimpit
Mayor, Pres. Roxas

Hon. Floro Allado
Mayor, Banisilan

Hon. Farida Malingco
Mayor, Pikit

Hon. Cristobal Cadungon
Mayor, Antipas

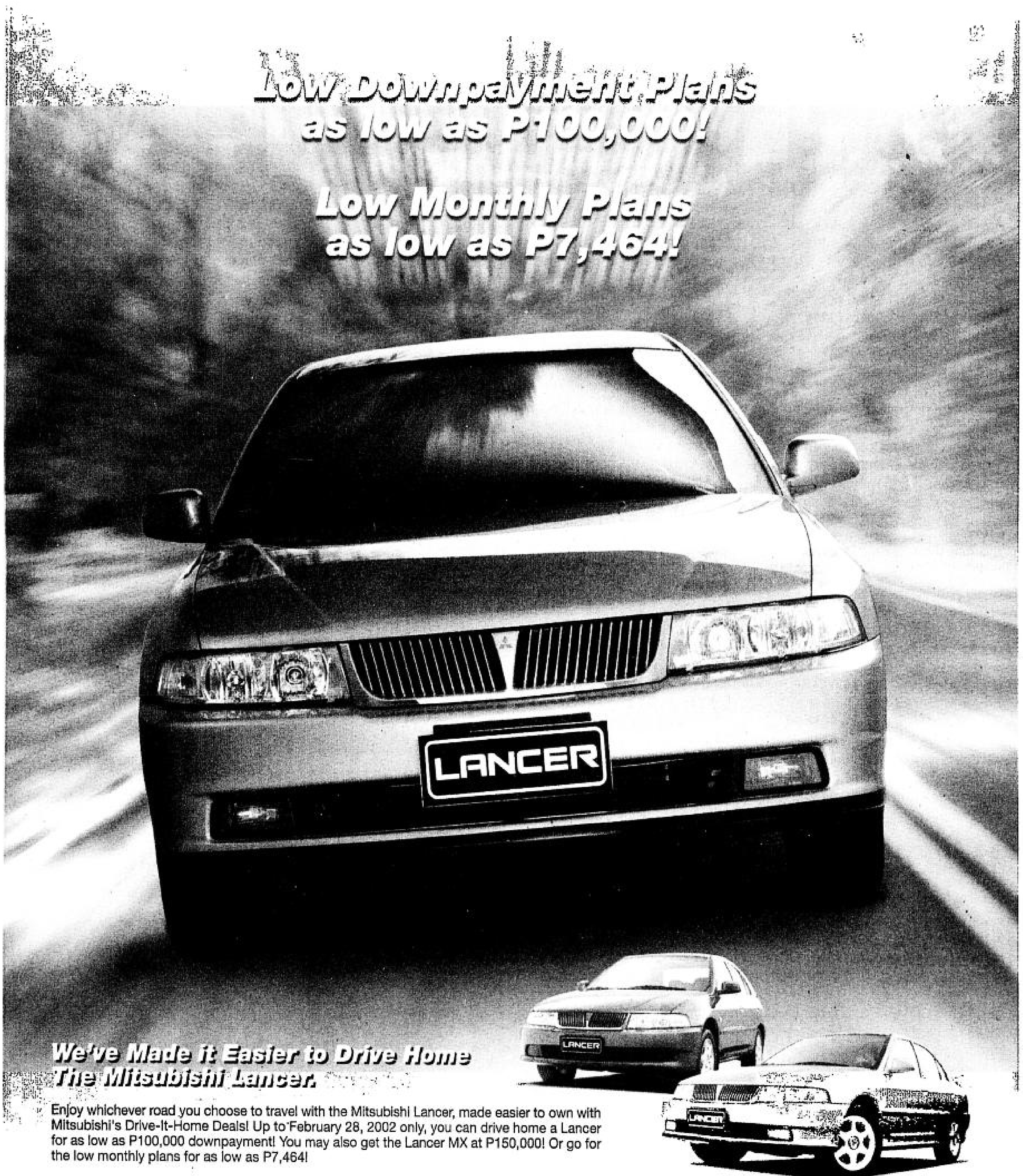
Hon. Romulo Tapgos
Mayor, Arakan

Hon. Luis P. Malaluan
City Mayor, Kidapawan

ADVT.

Find out how easy it is to own one.

MITSUBISHI DRIVE-IT-HOME Deals


Low Downpayment Plans as low as P100,000!
Low Monthly Plans as low as P7,464!
LANCER
We've Made it Easier to Drive Home The Mitsubishi Lancer.

Enjoy whichever road you choose to travel with the Mitsubishi Lancer, made easier to own with Mitsubishi's Drive-It-Home Deals! Up to February 28, 2002 only, you can drive home a Lancer for as low as P100,000 downpayment! You may also get the Lancer MX at P150,000! Or go for the low monthly plans for as low as P7,464!

P100,000 D/P Plans

Model	ESP	20% D/P	12 mos.	18 mos.	24 mos.	36 mos.	48 mos.	60 mos.
GLX M/T	620,000	100,000	45,098	31,135	24,771	17,710	14,348	12,560
GLS M/T	680,000		49,462	34,148	27,168	19,424	15,737	13,775
GLS A/T	710,000		51,644	35,654	28,367	20,281	16,431	14,383

P150,000 D/P Plans

Model	ESP	20% D/P	12 mos.	18 mos.	24 mos.	36 mos.	48 mos.	60 mos.
MX	790,000	150,000	57,463	39,671	31,563	22,566	18,282	16,004

*All Plans Subject to Bank Approval

Low Monthly Plans

Model	ESP	50% D/P	12 mos.	18 mos.	24 mos.	36 mos.	48 mos.	60 mos.
GLX M/T	620,000	310,000	26,772	18,483	14,720	10,524	8,526	7,464
GLS M/T	680,000	340,000	30,139	20,807	16,563	11,841	9,594	8,398
GLS A/T	710,000	355,000	31,468	21,726	17,293	12,364	10,017	8,768
MX	790,000	395,000	35,014	24,173	19,242	13,757	11,145	9,756

MITSUBISHI LANCER
Follow Your Road

No.1 COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALES 2001
Based on 2001 CAMPI/TMA Report

Special deals for cash buyers!

Promo ends February 28, 2002
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0138 Series of 2002.

Ask us about:
Auto credit plans
Service Plus Card

See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!

WE'RE EVERYWHERE TO SERVE YOU:
METRO MANILA: CITIMOTORS - Makati - Tels. 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS - Las Piñas - Tels. 875-1745, 873-6503, 875-1766, 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR - Greenhills - Tels. 727-0351 to 75, 721-0336, 724-5353 DIAMOND MOTOR - Marcos Highway - Tels. 645-4801 to 06, 681-4101, 681-4133 DIAMOND MOTOR - Quezon Avenue - Tels. 372-3901 to 15, 414-9440 to 42, 414-9433 to 37 DIAMOND MOTOR - Fairview - Tels. 418-3042, 935-3731 to 32 UNION MOTOR - Abad Santos - Tels. 251-7021 to 35, 253-1372 to 74 UNION MOTOR - Paco - Tels. 563-8481 to 85, 563-0461 to 67, 563-5679, 563-5686, 563-5689, 562-7203 UNION MOTOR - Kalookan - Tels. 364-20-61 to 69, 364-0147, 364-0149, 364-0422, 364-9762 MITSUBISHI MOTORS - Balintawak - Tels. 330-8901, 330-8903 LUZON: CARWORLD - Pampanga - Tels. (045) 961-2601 to 03, 961-3466, 961-5609, 961-3040, 961-5620 CARWORLD - Tarlac - Tels. (045) 982-5551 to 53, (045) 982-4640 CARWORLD- Marilao- Tel Nos. (044) 711-2885 to 2897, 711-2489 CARWORLD - Malolos - Tels. (044) 791-6320, (044) 791-2405 to 06, Cel. No. (0918) 231-7819 CARWORLD- Olongapo- Tel Nos. (047) 224-4307 FREEWAY MOTOR - Baliuag - (044) 766-4235 to 38 FREEWAY MOTOR - Isabela - Tel 682-8401 FREEWAY MOTOR - Cabanatuan - Tels. (044) 463-1391, 463-5105 MOTORPLAZA - Calasiao - Tels. (075) 522-2362, 522-6723, 517-3060 MOTORPLAZA - Urdaneta - Tel. (075) 568-3312, 568-2502 MOTORPLAZA - Bauang, La Union - Tel. (072) 242-0610, 705-5050 MOTORPLAZA - Baguio City - (074) 443-9780, 300-3571 SFM SALES - Lipa City - Tels. (043) 756-5522 to 25, 756-5194, 756-1018 SFM SALES - San Pablo City - Tels. (049) 562-0660, 562-0691 VISAYAS: AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod - Tels. (034) 435-2111 to 14, 433-0561 AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo City - Tels. (033) 337-6486, 335-0748 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU - Tels. (032) 346-1233, 420-5777 MITSUBISHI MOTORS DUMAGUETE - Tel (035) 225-1428 MITSUBISHI MOTORS TACLOBAN - Tel. (053) 323-3724, MITSUBISHI MOTORS TAGBILARAN - Tel (038) 411-5815 MINDANAO: MITSUBISHI MOTORS BUTUAN - Tel. (085) 815-3059 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel. (088) 856-1546 / (08822) 732-508 KARASIA - Davao/North - Tels. (082) 222-1111 to 13 KARASIA - Davao/South - Tels. (082) 299-1490 to 93 KARASIA - Tagum - Tel. (084) 217-3582 MINDANAO INTEGRATED-Gen. Santos - Tels. (083) 302-0586 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS - Zamboanga City - Tels. (062) 993-0788, 991-2250, 991-2138

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

Gloria demotes Tuquero

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has recalled the appointment of former President Joseph Estrada's justice secretary Artemio Tuquero as ambassador to Canada.

She instead appointed Tuquero, also a former Court of Appeals justice, as legal counsel of the Manila Economic Cultural Office (Meco), the country's de facto embassy in Taiwan.

The current ambassador to Ottawa, Francisco Benedicto, will stay put, she added.

The President is scheduled to visit Ottawa and Toronto on Jan. 29-31 in between her visit to London and to New York and Chicago.

"(Ambassador) Benedicto will still be the ambassador. I'm asking (Tuquero) to be the legal counsel of Meco with the rank of director," Ms Macapagal said in an ambush interview yesterday in Malacañang.

Ms Macapagal in October named Tuquero and former Estrada immigration chief Rufus Ro-driguez as ambassadors to Canada and Germany, respectively.

She said they are qualified for the posts notwithstanding their association with Estrada.

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said he did not know why the President changed her mind.

When asked if it was a "demotion" for Tuquero to be mere legal counsel, Tiglao said Meco is an important office.

Search on for top teachers

METROBANK Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the Metrobank Group, has launched its Search for Outstanding Teachers for the Year 2002.

The search is open to a full-time Filipino elementary, high school, and college teachers in public and private schools, who have been actively teaching in the Philippines for the last 10 years. Deans, vice deans, chairpersons of departments, subject area coordinators, teacher-librarians, head teachers, and guidance counselors who meet these requirements and carry a teaching load of at least 50 percent of the total load required by the nominating school are also eligible to join.

College teachers who are teaching part-time in graduate schools may also join provided they carry at least 50 percent of the teaching load in the undergraduate level.

A total of 12 winners will be selected; five from the elementary level; four from the high school level; and three from the college level. Each awardee will receive P150,000; P25,000 of which goes to the faculty development program of his/her school. The awardee will also receive a medal and a trophy and the school, a plaque of recognition. Finalists not chosen as winners will receive P12,000 and a plaque of recognition. Semifinalists will receive P6,000 and a certificate of recognition.

The WORLD

Luvern B. Gueco, Editor

Al-Qaida planned to blow up US Embassy in Indonesia–US

JAKARTA—Five suspected members of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network arrived in Indonesia from Yemen last July with a plan to blow up the US Embassy in Jakarta, a high-ranking US official has revealed.

But Indonesian authorities balked at taking action, allowing the men to slip out of the country after they realized they had been discovered, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

US diplomats surmised that authorities had intentionally scared the team away so as not to have to confront them.

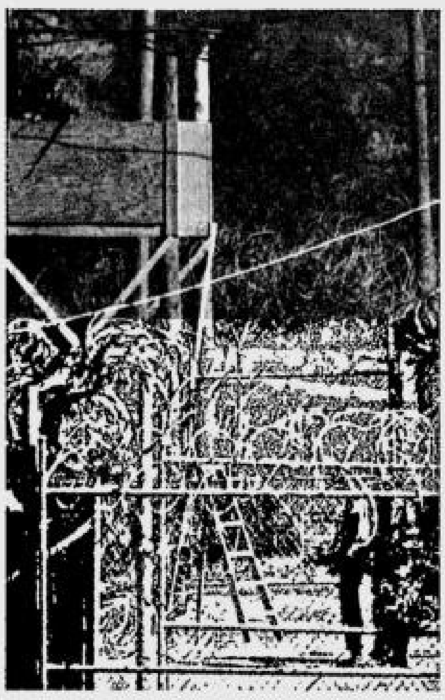
The incident, which was not made public earlier, highlighted the ambivalent attitude of Indonesia's government and military toward foreign and domestic Islamic radicals who reportedly assisted the al-Qaida team.

It also illustrated the difficulties the United States may face if it extends its war against al-Qaida and related terrorist groups to Southeast Asia, where close cooperation with friendly governments and security forces would be essential for success.

In Washington, another US official on Wednesday confirmed that an al-Qaida plot to detonate a truck bomb at the US Embassy in Jakarta around July or August of 2001 was disrupted. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Indonesia's top security minister Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono declined to comment on the allegations Wednesday, but said law enforcement agencies were monitoring potential terrorists. Police chief Gen. Da'i Bachtiar said he had not received reports of the alleged plot.

AP



ONE of the detainees being held at the US Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay waits while a gate is opened Jan. 23. The detainee was being taken into Camp X-ray after medical treatment. The 158 detainees transferred from Afghanistan are being held in the temporary facility on the south coast of Cuba. REUTERS

Flak forces US to hold prisoner transfers to Cuba

US NAVAL BASE AT GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba—Faced with mounting international criticism, the US military has put on hold transfers of prisoners from Afghanistan to the US Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, but began to interview those already there, US military officials said Wednesday.

The officials insisted the pause was not in response to the outpouring of concern over the prisoners' treatment, but gave contradictory reasons for the action.

President George W. Bush was "perfectly satisfied" that the military was upholding US traditions of humane treatment of prisoners while protecting the troops guarding them, said White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer.

"These are not mere innocents, these are among the worst of the worst," he said.

Meanwhile, authorities have begun conducting "interviews"—but not yet interrogations—of some of the prisoners for the first time since their arrival at Guantanamo, Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Michael Lehnert told reporters at the base.

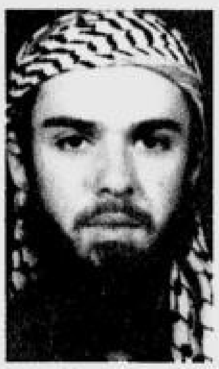
The general said the prisoners were not being given access to legal counsel because it was "not appropriate at this time."

A spokesperson for the US Southern Command in Miami, Florida, which is responsible for the base at Guantanamo, said the transfers of prisoners were being held up by deliberations within the US government over arrangements for an intelligence center at the base.

"We've been told they're going to pause the flow while they make these preparations to make sure everything is all right," said Steven Lucas, a spokesperson for the command.

AFP

American Taliban arrives in Dulles to face charges



LINDH

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia—John Walker Lindh, the American accused of fighting for the Taliban in Afghanistan against US-backed troops, arrived in the United States late Wednesday, to face criminal charges.

US media reported that a plane carrying Walker landed at Dulles International Airport outside Washington.

He was then transported to the jail near the federal court house here, where he is to appear Thursday, according to an AFP photographer. Television images showed Walker shackled and handcuffed, escorted by several guards.

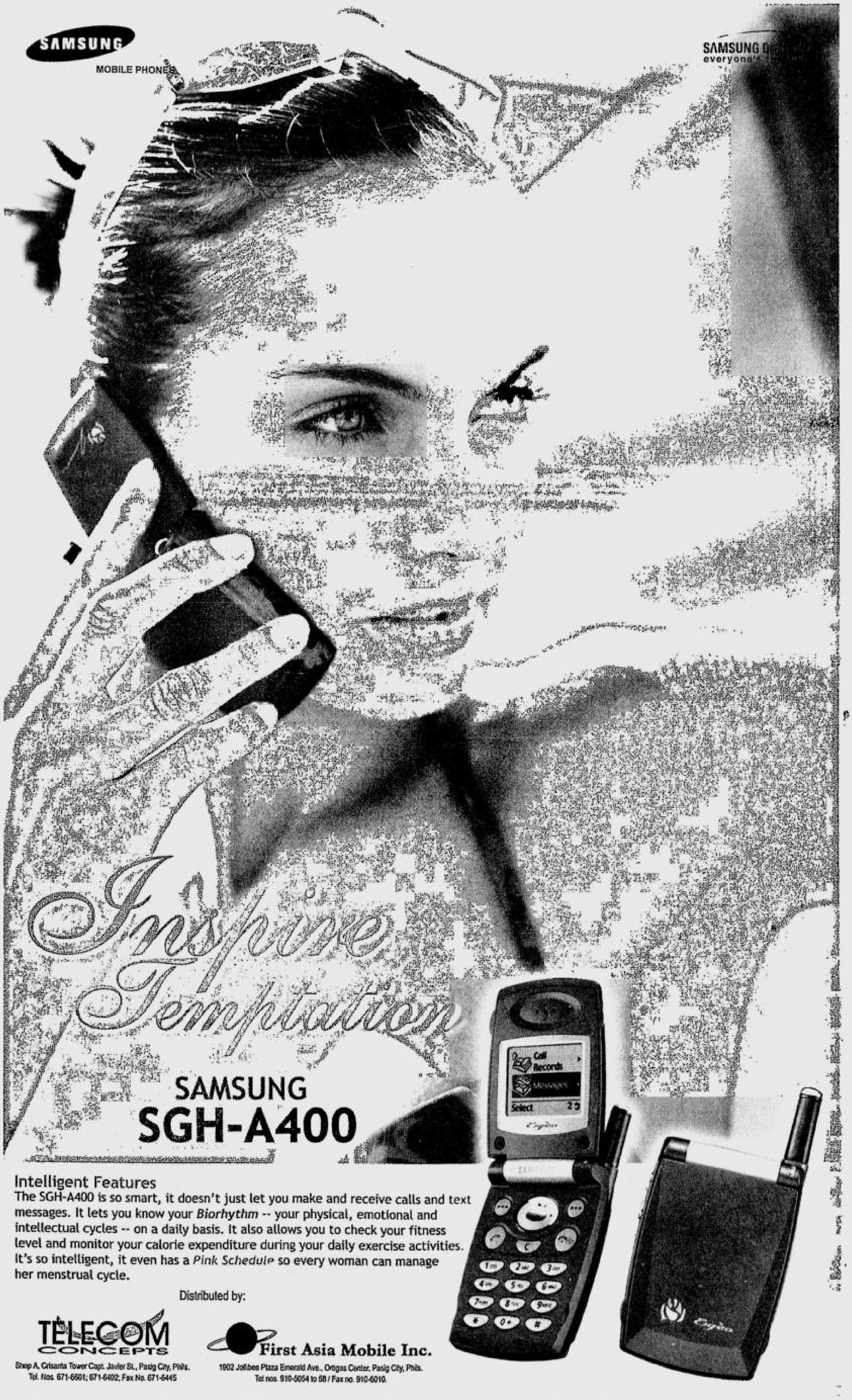
Walker will appear at 9 a.m. before US Magistrate Judge Weldon Sewell on charges of conspiring to kill US nationals and supporting terrorist groups, said Paul McNulty, US attorney for the eastern district of Virginia.

Walker left Kandahar airport in Afghanistan late Tuesday aboard a US military C-17 aircraft under tight security.

The 20-year-old Muslim convert, also known as Suleyman al-Faris or Abdul Hamid, was placed in leg irons for the trip back to the United States, the Pentagon said.

At his initial court appearance, Walker will get another chance to say if he wants legal representation, Justice Department spokesperson Bryan Sierra said.

AFP



Intelligent Features

The SGH-A400 is so smart, it doesn't just let you make and receive calls and text messages. It lets you know your *Biorhythm* -- your physical, emotional and intellectual cycles -- on a daily basis. It also allows you to check your fitness level and monitor your calorie expenditure during your daily exercise activities. It's so intelligent, it even has a *Pink Schedule* so every woman can manage her menstrual cycle.

Distributed by:

TELECOM CONCEPTS
Shop A, Crisanta Tower Capt. Javier St., Pasig City, Phils.
Tel. Nos. 671-6601; 671-6402; Fax No. 671-6445

First Asia Mobile Inc.
1902 Jollibee Plaza Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Phils.
Tel nos. 910-5054 to 58 / Fax no. 910-6010.

Samsung Electronics Philippines Corporation [illegible]

Israel braced for new, more violent attacks

PALESTINIANS hold pictures of killed members of the militant Islamic movement Hamas during a funeral in the West Bank city of Nablus Jan. 23. Hamas said an Israeli raid in the West Bank city of Nablus that killed four of its members has opened the door to a "fierce war" with Israel. REUTERS

JERUSALEM—Tensions rose again in the Middle East Wednesday after a deadly Palestinian shooting in Jerusalem, as Hezbollah guerrillas fired rockets and mortars on Israeli positions on the Lebanese-Syrian border, triggering a swift Israeli response.

But in Paris the speakers of the Israeli and Palestinian parliaments shook hands, while Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres put Israel's case before the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Israeli security forces were on top alert across the country after military intelligence chief Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi warned Tuesday Israel was facing a new bout of attacks on its cities worse than any in the past.

But the only strike following Tuesday's bloodshed came from Lebanon, where Hezbollah broke its de facto three-months truce, firing mortar and rocket fire on the Shebaa Farms, captured by Israel from Syria in 1967 and now claimed by Lebanon with Syrian consent.

Israel retaliated with missile strikes by warplanes and artillery shelling, Lebanese security services said.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer branded the assault "very dangerous" and said Iran and Syria had given the Lebanese guerrillas the green light, his spokesperson said.

Peres also said: "Iran is trying through Hezbollah to deteriorate the situation in the region and bring about a difficult escalation in violence."

Israel earlier this month seized a ship laden with Iranian weapons which it said was headed for Gaza, although Iran and the Palestinian leadership denied any knowledge of it.

A western diplomat said the Lebanese Shiite group's attacks Wednesday were partly in response for Israel's latest operations against the Palestinians.

A series of attacks and retaliatory strikes have undermined a ceasefire call last month by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, trapped by Israel in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

On Tuesday a gunman from the Al-aqsa Martyrs Brigade, a splinter of Arafat's Fatah movement, killed two Israeli women and injured almost 40 other people in central Jerusalem before being shot dead.

The shooting followed an Israeli raid into the West Bank city of Nablus to destroy a major bomb-making facility, in which four members of the radical Hamas movement were killed.

Some 15,000 people gathered Wednesday for the funerals of three of the Hamas militants, and heard a speaker call for the group's armed wing to resume its suicide bombings.

Hamas issued a declaration of "total war" against Israel after the Army's Nablus raid, which came just as the Israeli military ended a 30-hour re-occupation of the West Bank town of Tulkarem, itself in retaliation for an earlier shooting in Israel.

Israeli military analyst Zeev Schiff said in the daily Haaretz Arafat was planning an "improved intifada" with the aim of causing as many casualties as possible among Israelis, mostly civilians, across the country. *AFP*

Taiwan PM names China Airlines head to Cabinet

TAIPEI—Taiwan's new premier rounded out his reshuffled Cabinet on Thursday, appointing the president of China Airlines, Christine Tsung, to be the economics minister—the first female to hold the job.

The key post of finance minister was filled by Lee Yung-san, chair of the International Commercial Bank of China—one of the top 10 banks in Taiwan.

Tsung and Lee will be under intense pressure to pull Taiwan's economy out of its first recession in decades. Whether they can do this could determine whether President Chen Shui-bian is reelected in 2004.

"Economic development is Taiwan's lifeline for survival," Premier Yu Shyi-kun told reporters before introducing the new ministers.

The Cabinet reshuffle began this week as the president sought a fresh team to face the new legislature. After elections last month, the president's Democratic Progressive Party emerged as the largest party in the legislature for the first time in Taiwanese history, but the DPP still lacks a clear majority.

Tsung replaced Lin Hsin-i, who has been named vice premier. The daughter of an air force pilot, she was appointed 18 months ago to head the island's biggest carrier, China Airlines, which had one of the world's worst safety records. The choice surprised many because she had no experience in the aviation industry.

But Tsung, who has close ties with the president, has been credited with helping the airline earn a profit in 2001, despite a downturn in the industry. The airline—which had four fatal crashes in the 1990s—also has not had a deadly accident during her leadership.

The 53-year-old Tsung, who has an MBA from the University of Missouri, has little experience running a large government department. While she lived in America for nearly three decades, she served as the finance director for the small southern California city of Poway, near San Diego.

When she returned to Taiwan in 1999, she served as an adviser for a subway project in Kaohsiung, the island's second-largest city.

On Thursday, Yu said Tsung would be a valuable addition to the team because of her administrative experience and positive image in the international media. She has graced the covers of several global business and aviation industry magazines.

Tsung "will bring more vigor and vitality," to the Cabinet, Yu said.

Local media have reported that Tsung was reluctant to take the job, but on Thursday she said the reports were wrong.

"I didn't hesitate," she said. "I wanted to join the new team and all the Taiwanese people in working for Taiwan's economy."

The former economics minister acknowledged that there may be doubts about Tsung's ability but he said he has full confidence in her.

"I believe Ms Tsung can quickly catch up and boost the industry and attract foreign investment," Lin told reporters. *AP*

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

TAXATION (CUSTOMS)—Customs duties—Customs duties is the name given to taxes on the importation and exportation of commodities, the tariff or tax assessed upon merchandise imported from, or exported to, a foreign country. Any claim for refund of customs duties, therefore, take the nature of tax exemptions that must be construed *strictissimi juris* against the claimants and liberally in favor of the taxing authority. This power of taxation being a high prerogative of sovereignty, its relinquishment is never presumed. Any reduction or diminution thereof with regard to its mode or its rate must be strictly construed, and the same must be couched in clear and unmistakable terms in order that it may be applied. [Citations omitted.] [Justice De Leon, Jr., Second Division, Nestle Philippines, Inc. v. Court of Appeals, G.R. No. 134114, July 6, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

RISO
World's Leading Digital Duplicator
Have your very own Instant Printshop!
Earn or Save P30,000 a day!
PRINTS MORE THAN 300 REAMS A DAY USING 300 ORIGINALS
Customer Hotline 7476-888
Exclusively Distributed in the Philippines by:
COPYLANDIA OFFICE SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Copylandia Corporate Center
718 Bumatay Street (near City Hall) Mandaluyong City
Tel. No. 7476-888 • Fax No. 7476-222
NATIONWIDE BRANCH NETWORK
MANILA 7476-888 • ANGELES 887-2500 / 887-2499 • BACOLOD 435-0193 • BUTUAN 342-5321
CEBU 232-4520 • CAGAYAN DE ORO 857-4249 / 857-4272 • DAGUPAN 515-3306
DAVAO 224-0792 • DUMAGUETE 225-4759 • ILIGAN 221-3710 • ILOILO 320-7488
LIPA 757-0235 • LOS BAÑOS 536-5458 • NAGA (0917) 816-9974 • TACLOBAN 321-7610
TAGBILARAN 235-3431 • ZAMBOANGA 991-2446

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, January 25, 2002
Conversion of St. Paul
1st Reading: **Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22**
Gospel: **Mk 16:15-18**

Jesus told his disciples, "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; the one who refuses to believe will be condemned. Signs like these will accompany those who have believed: in my Name they will cast out demons and speak new languages; they will pick up snakes and, if they drink anything poisonous, they will be unharmed. They will lay their hands on the sick and they will be healed."

Commentary

Passing by Rome I visit both St. Peter's and St. Paul's basilicas. In the first one I recite the Creed, feeling happy and thankful for being part of the universal Catholic Church. When in St. Paul's, as a missionary I feel more at home and my missionary zeal gets recharged. I feel impelled by St. Paul's example to go to the whole world and announce the good news to all without fear of possible dangers. My enthusiasm is balanced by the felt need of constant conversion. St. Paul is a model not just during his missionary journeys but also during his conversion experience. To be thrown to the ground from our proud pedestal, to get blind before seeing right and sharing light to others are steps that every Christian must experience if s/he wants to bring the gospel to the world.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

A CONGOLESE woman carries her child and belongings in the devastated town of Goma as she waits to take home food rations distributed by international aid agencies Jan. 23. The first bulk supplies of food entered volcano-stricken Goma in eastern Congo on Wednesday, six days after its long-suffering people lost much of their home town to Africa's deadliest eruption in 25 years. REUTERS

Food aid reaches Goma 6 days after eruption

GOMA, Congo—The first bulk supplies of food flowed into volcano-stricken Goma on Wednesday, six days after its long-suffering people lost much of their home town to Africa's deadliest eruption in 25 years.

Congolese traffic police in bright yellow uniforms reappeared for the first time since the eruption of Mt. Nyiragongo last Thursday. They blew whistles at cars returning bumper to bumper along a relief lifeline bulldozed through a lava field leading into the devastated port on Lake Kivu.

Hundreds of hungry residents flooded into 10 distribution points dotted around the town of half a million people, carrying sacks of maize and vegetable oil provided by the United Nations.

"I'm so happy we have got the food. I've got 15 children and they haven't eaten anything since Thursday," said Angelina Mabinte, 32, waiting patiently at a distribution point in the west of the city.

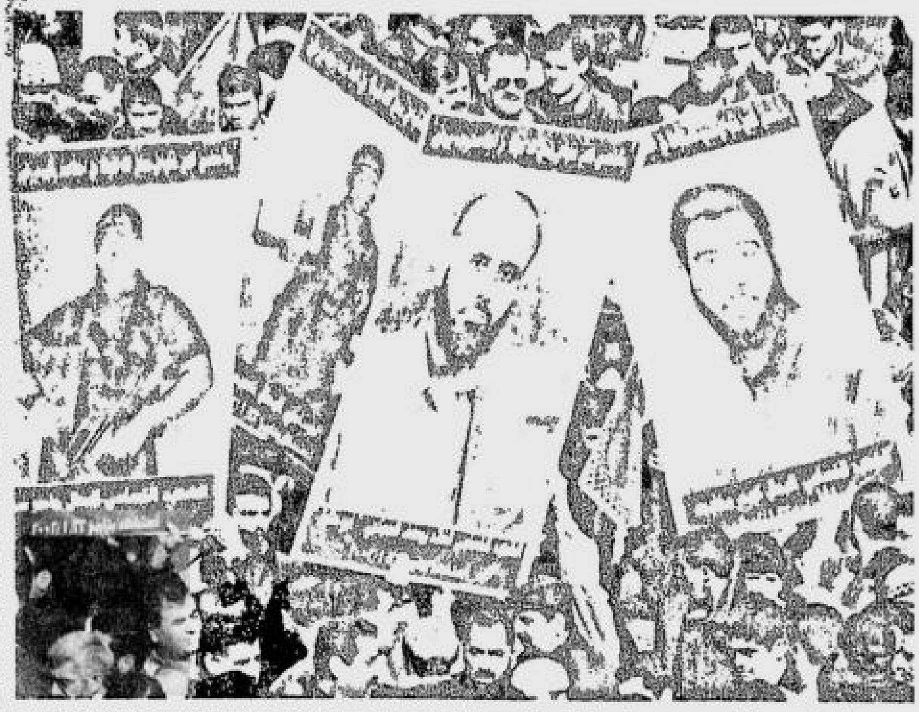
Medical charity Medecins sans Frontieres expressed relief help was arriving at last, some of it along the newly built 300-meter stretch of warm rock slurry which has become the town's busiest thoroughfare.

"There was a problem with access, but now finally we can get the supplies across," said spokesperson Luisa Colasimone.

Trudging down the path with yellow plastic jerrycans, residents took advantage of the new route to seek clean water and look for lost loved ones. *Reuters*

HP Deskjet Price-Off Coupon Promo
hp invent
Save up to P1,000 on your next purchase.
With HP Deskjet's Price-Off Coupon Promo, get P1,000 off when you buy an hp scanner or P500 off your hp inkjet print cartridge. Simply buy an hp deskjet printer and you'll receive a Price-Off Coupon. Promo runs until April 30, 2002. For more information, visit an hp dealer near you.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0047, Series of 2002

Israel braced for new, more violent attacks



PALESTINIANS hold pictures of killed members of the militant Islamic movement Hamas during a funeral in the West Bank city of Nablus Jan. 23. Hamas said an Israeli raid in the West Bank city of Nablus that killed four of its members has opened the door to a "fierce war" with Israel. REUTERS

JERUSALEM—Tensions rose again in the Middle East Wednesday after a deadly Palestinian shooting in Jerusalem, as Hezbollah guerrillas fired rockets and mortars on Israeli positions on the Lebanese-Syrian border, triggering a swift Israeli response.

But in Paris the speakers of the Israeli and Palestinian parliaments shook hands, while Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres put Israel's case before the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Israeli security forces were on top alert across the country after military intelligence chief Maj. Gen. Aharon Zeevi warned Tuesday Israel was facing a new bout of attacks on its cities worse than any in the past.

But the only strike following Tuesday's bloodshed came from Lebanon, where Hezbollah broke its de facto three-months truce, firing mortar and rocket fire on the Shebaa Farms, captured by Israel from Syria in 1967 and now claimed by Lebanon with Syrian consent.

Israel retaliated with missile strikes by warplanes and artillery shelling, Lebanese security services said.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer branded the assault "very dangerous" and said Iran and Syria had given the Lebanese guerrillas the green light, his spokesperson said.

Peres also said: "Iran is trying through Hezbollah to deteriorate the situation in the region and bring about a difficult escalation in violence."

Israel earlier this month seized a ship laden with Iranian weapons which it said was headed for Gaza, although Iran and the Palestinian leadership denied any knowledge of it.

A western diplomat said the Lebanese Shiite group's attacks Wednesday were partly in response for Israel's latest operations against the Palestinians.

A series of attacks and retaliatory strikes have undermined a ceasefire call last month by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, trapped by Israel in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

On Tuesday a gunman from the Al-aqsa Martyrs Brigade, a splinter of Arafat's Fatah movement, killed two Israeli women and injured almost 40 other people in central Jerusalem before being shot dead.

The shooting followed an Israeli raid into the West Bank city of Nablus to destroy a major bomb-making facility, in which four members of the radical Hamas movement were killed.

Some 15,000 people gathered Wednesday for the funerals of three of the Hamas militants, and heard a speaker call for the group's armed wing to resume its suicide bombings.

Hamas issued a declaration of "total war" against Israel after the Army's Nablus raid, which came just as the Israeli military ended a 30-hour re-occupation of the West Bank town of Tulkarem, itself in retaliation for an earlier shooting in Israel.

Israeli military analyst Zeev Schiff said in the daily Haaretz Arafat was planning an "improved intifada" with the aim of causing as many casualties as possible among Israelis, mostly civilians, across the country. *AFP*

Taiwan PM names China Airlines head to Cabinet

TAIPEI—Taiwan's new premier rounded out his reshuffled Cabinet on Thursday, appointing the president of China Airlines, Christine Tsung, to be the economics minister—the first female to hold the job.

The key post of finance minister was filled by Lee Yung-san, chair of the International Commercial Bank of China—one of the top 10 banks in Taiwan.

Tsung and Lee will be under intense pressure to pull Taiwan's economy out of its first recession in decades. Whether they can do this could determine whether President Chen Shui-bian is reelected in 2004.

"Economic development is Taiwan's lifeline for survival," Premier Yu Shyi-kun told reporters before introducing the new ministers.

The Cabinet reshuffle began this week as the president sought a fresh team to face the new legislature. After elections last month, the president's Democratic Progressive Party emerged as the largest party in the legislature for the first time in Taiwanese history, but the DPP still lacks a clear majority.

Tsung replaced Lin Hsin-i, who has been named vice premier. The daughter of an air force pilot, she was appointed 18 months ago to head the island's biggest carrier, China Airlines, which had one of the world's worst safety records. The choice surprised many because she had no experience in the aviation industry.

But Tsung, who has close ties with the president, has been credited with helping the airline earn a profit in 2001, despite a downturn in the industry. The airline—which had four fatal crashes in the 1990s—also has not had a deadly accident during her leadership.

The 53-year-old Tsung, who has an MBA from the University of Missouri, has little experience running a large government department. While she lived in America for nearly three decades, she served as the finance director for the small southern California city of Poway, near San Diego.

When she returned to Taiwan in 1999, she served as an adviser for a subway project in Kaohsiung, the island's second-largest city.

On Thursday, Yu said Tsung would be a valuable addition to the team because of her administrative experience and positive image in the international media. She has graced the covers of several global business and aviation industry magazines.

Tsung "will bring more vigor and vitality," to the Cabinet, Yu said.

Local media have reported that Tsung was reluctant to take the job, but on Thursday she said the reports were wrong.

"I didn't hesitate," she said. "I wanted to join the new team and all the Taiwanese people in working for Taiwan's economy."

The former economics minister acknowledged that there may be doubts about Tsung's ability but he said he has full confidence in her.

"I believe Ms Tsung can quickly catch up and boost the industry and attract foreign investment," Lin told reporters. *AP*

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

TAXATION (CUSTOMS)—Customs duties—Customs duties is the name given to taxes on the importation and exportation of commodities, the tariff or tax assessed upon merchandise imported from, or exported to, a foreign country. Any claim for refund of customs duties, therefore, take the nature of tax exemptions that must be construed *strictissimi juris* against the claimants and liberally in favor of the taxing authority. This power of taxation being a high prerogative of sovereignty, its relinquishment is never presumed. Any reduction or diminution thereof with regard to its mode or its rate must be strictly construed, and the same must be couched in clear and unmistakable terms in order that it may be applied. [Citations omitted.] [Justice De Leon, Jr., Second Division, Nestle Philippines, Inc. v. Court of Appeals, G.R. No. 134114, July 6, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

A CONGOLESE woman carries her child and belongings in the devastated town of Goma as she waits to take home food rations distributed by international aid agencies Jan. 23. The first bulk supplies of food entered volcano-stricken Goma in eastern Congo on Wednesday, six days after its long-suffering people lost much of their home town to Africa's deadliest eruption in 25 years. REUTERS

Food aid reaches Goma 6 days after eruption

GOMA, Congo—The first bulk supplies of food flowed into volcano-stricken Goma on Wednesday, six days after its long-suffering people lost much of their home town to Africa's deadliest eruption in 25 years.

Congolese traffic police in bright yellow uniforms reappeared for the first time since the eruption of Mt. Nyiragongo last Thursday. They blew whistles at cars returning bumper to bumper along a relief lifeline bulldozed through a lava field leading into the devastated port on Lake Kivu.

Hundreds of hungry residents flooded into 10 distribution points dotted around the town of half a million people, carrying sacks of maize and vegetable oil provided by the United Nations.

"I'm so happy we have got the food. I've got 15 children and they haven't eaten anything since Thursday," said Angelina Mabinte, 32, waiting patiently at a distribution point in the west of the city.

Medical charity Medecins sans Frontieres expressed relief help was arriving at last, some of it along the newly built 300-meter stretch of warm rock slurry which has become the town's busiest thoroughfare.

"There was a problem with access, but now finally we can get the supplies across," said spokesperson Luisa Colasimone.

Trudging down the path with yellow plastic jerrycans, residents took advantage of the new route to seek clean water and look for lost loved ones. *Reuters*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, January 25, 2002
Conversion of St. Paul

1st Reading: **Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22**
Gospel: **Mk 16:15-18**

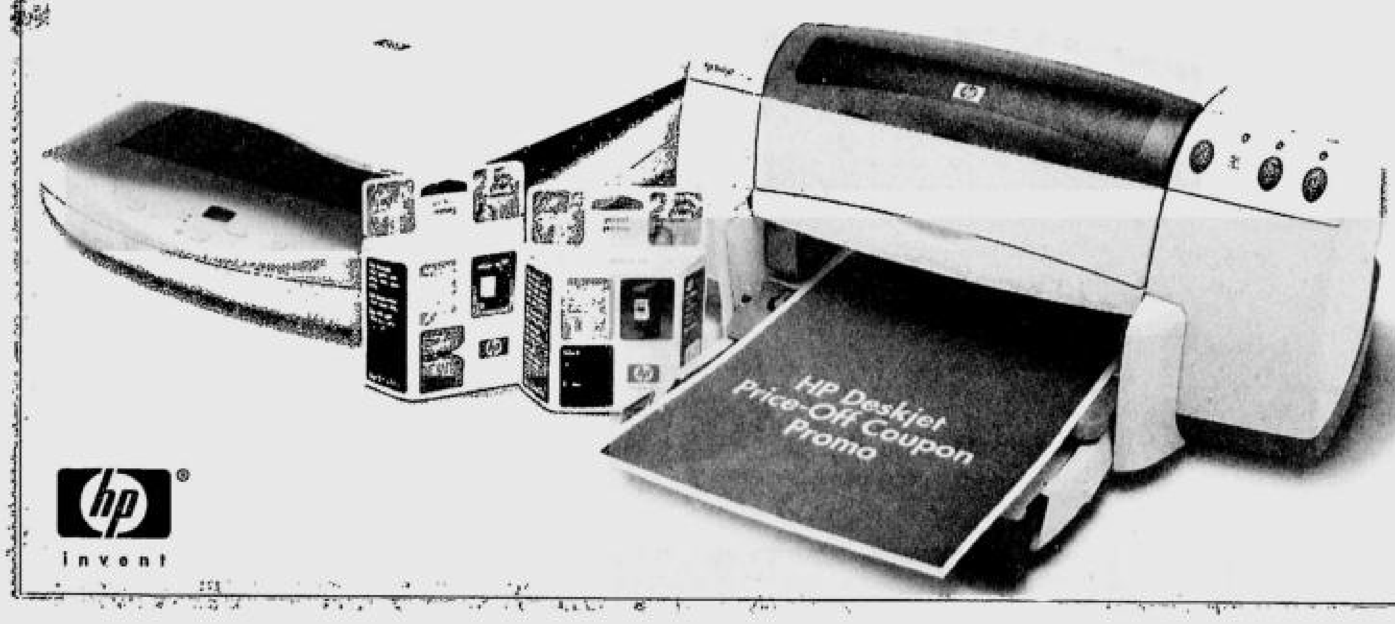
Jesus told his disciples, "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; the one who refuses to believe will be condemned. Signs like these will accompany those who have believed: in my Name they will cast out demons and speak new languages; they will pick up snakes and, if they drink anything poisonous, they will be unharmed. They will lay their hands on the sick and they will be healed."

Commentary

Passing by Rome I visit both St. Peter's and St. Paul's basilicas. In the first one I recite the Creed, feeling happy and thankful for being part of the universal Catholic Church. When in St. Paul's, as a missionary I feel more at home and my missionary zeal gets recharged. I feel impelled by St. Paul's example to go to the whole world and announce the good news to all without fear of possible dangers. My enthusiasm is balanced by the felt need of constant conversion. St. Paul is a model not just during his missionary journeys but also during his conversion experience. To be thrown to the ground from our proud pedestal, to get blind before seeing right and sharing light to others are steps that every Christian must experience if s/he wants to bring the gospel to the world.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

RISO
World's Leading Digital Duplicator
Have your very own Instant Printshop!
Earn or Save P30,000 a day!
PRINTS MORE THAN 300 REAMS A DAY USING 300 ORIGINALS
Customer Hotline 7476-888
Exclusively Distributed in the Philippines by:
COPYLANDIA OFFICE SYSTEMS CORPORATION
Copylandia Corporate Center
718 Bumatay Street (near City Hall) Mandaluyong City
Tel. No. 7476-888 • Fax No. 7476-222
NATIONWIDE BRANCH NETWORK
MANILA 7476-888 • ANGELES 887-2500 / 887-2499 • BACOLOD 435-0193 • BUTUAN 342-5321
CEBU 232-4520 • CAGAYAN DE ORO 857-4249 / 857-4272 • DAGUPAN 515-3306
DAVAO 224-0792 • DUMAGUETE 225-4759 • ILIGAN 221-3710 • ILOILO 320-7488
LIPA 757-0235 • LOS BAÑOS 536-5458 • NAGA (0917) 816-9974 • TACLOBAN 321-7610
TAGBILARAN 235-3431 • ZAMBOANGA 991-2446



hp invent
Save up to P1,000 on your next purchase.
With HP Deskjet's Price-Off Coupon Promo, get P1,000 off when you buy an hp scanner or P500 off your hp inkjet print cartridge. Simply buy an hp deskjet printer and you'll receive a Price-Off Coupon. Promo runs until April 30, 2002. For more information, visit an hp dealer near you.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0047, Series of 2002

Lockerbie bomber's lawyer assails judges

CAMP ZEIST, Netherlands—Lawyers for the Lockerbie bomber in the second day of an appeal on Thursday will build on their argument that the Libyan's conviction for the 1988 mid-air blast was based on errors and misunderstandings.

In a case that became a byword for airborne attacks before Sept. 11, former secret agent Abdel Basset al-Megrahi was jailed for life a year ago for killing 270 people with a suitcase bomb that blew up a US airliner over the village of Lockerbie in Scotland.

Megrahi's appeal began on Wednesday with his counsel accusing the trial judges who convicted him last January of misunderstanding, misconstruing and misinterpreting evidence. The counsel also said "significant evidence" had emerged since then that he was not guilty.

If the conviction was overturned it would be a major embarrassment for the United States and Britain. Both worked to build a wall of sanctions around Muammar Gaddafi's Libya to press him to hand over those suspected of the bombing of Pan Am's London to New York flight 103. It was Britain's worst case of mass murder.

Megrahi's lawyers say the evidence that has emerged would have supported the argument that the suitcase with the bomb was not loaded at Malta's Luqa airport but at Heathrow airport in London.

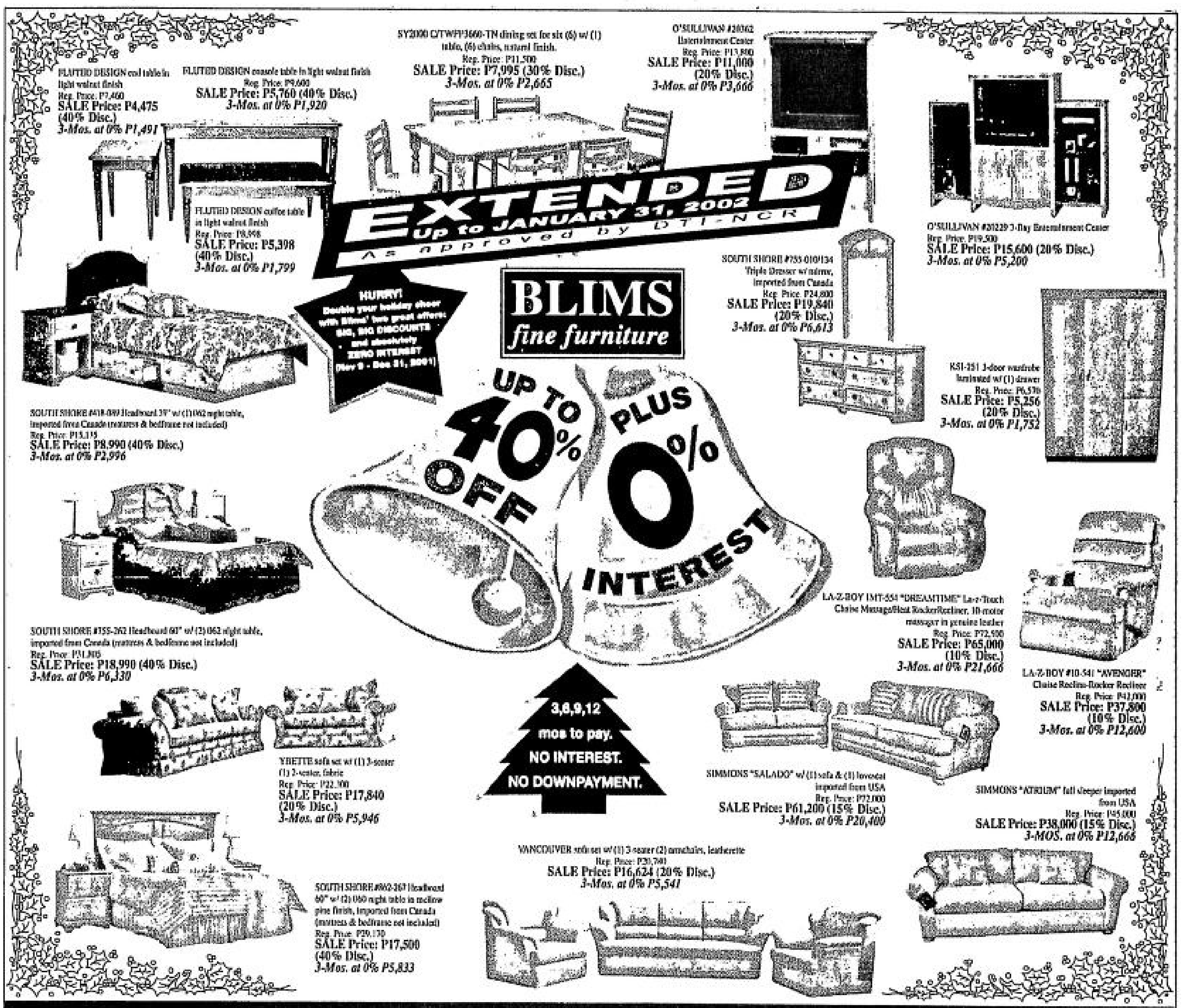
His lawyers say the evidence shows a padlock was forced on a secure door near a Heathrow baggage area hours before the jumbo jet was blown up. They want to call a former Heathrow security guard, Raymond Manly, as a witness.

The lawyers also question the trial judges' handling of testimony by a Maltese shop owner who said he sold the Libyan clothes that were tucked around the bomb.

Five High Court judges, headed by Scotland's top judge Lord Cullen, are hearing the appeal. Like the nine-month trial, the appeal is being held at Camp Zeist, a disused US air base in the Netherlands pressed into service to overcome Libyan objections to a trial in Britain.

Clad in white robes, patterned waistcoat and a dark red fez, 49-year-old Megrahi sat listening calmly through headphones to an Arabic translation of Wednesday's proceedings.

He smiled and waved to relatives and supporters in the public gallery, separated from him by a bulletproof glass panel. ***Reuters***


EXTENDED
Up to JANUARY 31, 2002
As approved by DTI-NCR
HURRY! Double your holiday cheer with Blims' two great offers: BIG, BIG DISCOUNTS and absolutely ZERO INTEREST (Nov 9 - Dec 31, 2001)
BLIMS fine furniture
UP TO 40% OFF
PLUS 0% INTEREST
3,6,9,12 mos to pay. NO INTEREST. NO DOWNPAYMENT.

FLUTED DESIGN end table in light walnut finish
Reg. Price: P7,460
SALE Price: P4,475 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P1,491

FLUTED DESIGN console table in light walnut finish
Reg. Price: P9,600
SALE Price: P5,760 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P1,920

SY2000 C/TWFP3660-TN dining set for six (6) w/ (1) table, (6) chairs, natural finish.
Reg. Price: P11,500
SALE Price: P7,995 (30% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P2,665

O'SULLIVAN #20062 Entertainment Center
Reg. Price: P13,800
SALE Price: P11,000 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P3,666

FLUTED DESIGN coffee table in light walnut finish
Reg. Price: P8,998
SALE Price: P5,398 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P1,799

O'SULLIVAN #20229 3-Bay Entertainment Center
Reg. Price: P19,500
SALE Price: P15,600 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P5,200

SOUTH SHORE #755 010'134 Triple Dresser w/ mirror, imported from Canada
Reg. Price: P24,800
SALE Price: P19,840 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P6,613

SOUTH SHORE #418-089 Headboard 39" w/ (1) 062 night table, imported from Canada (mattress & bedframe not included)
Reg. Price: P15,175
SALE Price: P8,990 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P2,996

KSI-251 3-door wardrobe laminated w/ (1) drawer
Reg. Price: P6,570
SALE Price: P5,256 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P1,752

SOUTH SHORE #755-262 Headboard 60" w/ (2) 062 night table, imported from Canada (mattress & bedframe not included)
Reg. Price: P31,805
SALE Price: P18,990 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P6,330

LA-Z-BOY 1MT-554 "DREAMTIME" La-z-Touch Chaise Massage/Heat Rocker/Recliner, 10-motor massager in genuine leather
Reg. Price: P72,500
SALE Price: P65,000 (10% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P21,666

LA-Z-BOY #10-541 "AVENGER" Chaise Recline-Rocker Recliner
Reg. Price: P42,000
SALE Price: P37,800 (10% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P12,600

YBETTE sofa set w/ (1) 3-seater (1) 2-seater, fabric
Reg. Price: P22,300
SALE Price: P17,840 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P5,946

SIMMONS "SALADO" w/ (1) sofa & (1) loveseat imported from USA
Reg. Price: P72,000
SALE Price: P61,200 (15% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P20,400

SIMMONS "ATRIUM" full sleeper imported from USA
Reg. Price: P45,000
SALE Price: P38,000 (15% Disc.)
3-MOS. at 0% P12,666

VANCOUVER sofa set w/ (1) 3-seater (2) armchairs, leatherette
Reg. Price: P20,780
SALE Price: P16,624 (20% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P5,541

SOUTH SHORE #862-267 Headboard 60" w/ (2) 060 night table in mellow pine finish, imported from Canada (mattress & bedframe not included)
Reg. Price: P29,170
SALE Price: P17,500 (40% Disc.)
3-Mos. at 0% P5,833

THE BLIMS OFFER THAT HAS EVERYONE BUYING!

*AIG Credit Cards *OFFER GOOD IN METRO MANILA ONLY · BPI Express Credit · CITIBANK Pay Lite INSTALLMENT PLAN · Diners Club International · Equitable CARD · METROBANK · Standard Chartered

Flexible payment options available * Full service warranty on all furniture * Minimum purchase amount for Equitable (Visa, Mastercard & JCB) is P5,000

6797 Ayala Ave.,
cor. Herrera St., Makati
Tel. No. 893-6556, 58, 59

Greenbelt 1, Makati
Tel. Nos. 810-8014 to 15
810-6653

Glorietta 1, Level 2
Ayala Center, Makati
Tel. Nos. 867-2350 / 867-4656
867-4744

Robinsons Galleria - Level 3
Expansion Mall
Tel. Nos. 633-8202 / 632-0675

Robinsons Ermita - Level 3
Tel. Nos. 525-0007 / 18 / 31

SM City (North Edsa)
Tel. Nos. 927-6752 / 47 / 63

SM SouthMall, Level 2
Tel. Nos. 800-5317 to 18

Alabang Town Center
Level 3, New Wing
Tel. Nos. 809-4639; 809-3410

Festival Supermall, Level 2
Filinvest, Alabang
Tel. Nos. 850-3540 / 43

CEBU - Ayala Center, Level 3
Tel. Nos. (032) 232-1082 to 83

BLIMS fine furniture
CRAFTED FOR LIVING

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3810 Series of 2001

HONDA
The Power of Dreams

4 Honda TECH

RIDE TO THE EXTREMES

HONDA

Environment · Technology · Racing · Safety-Honda

HAMP
HAMP SYNERGY

Genuine parts with quality approved by Honda whose price is very economical. Developed for Honda motorcycle users, suitable for maintenance.

Enron chair quits amid scandal

LAY

HOUSTON—Enron Corp. chair and chief Executive Officer Ken Lay resigned on Wednesday from the company he ran from its 1986 birth after accounting scandals drove it to the largest bankruptcy in US history and made it an icon of corporate malfeasance.

His resignation came less than two months after the unprecedented Chapter 11 filing and amid mounting evidence that Lay, 59, knew of the energy giant's debt-ridden position even as he was advising employees to buy Enron stock.

Enron's board of directors and the bankruptcy creditors committee were in favor of replacing Lay with a restructuring specialist to steer the company out of bankruptcy as an acting CEO, Enron said. The decision was mutual, Lay added.

"I want to see Enron survive, and for that to happen we need someone at the helm who can focus 100 percent of his efforts on reorganizing the company and preserving value for our creditors and hard-working employees," Lay said in a statement.

Enron's failure cost creditors and stockholders billions and many employees saw their retirement benefits destroyed as company stock became worthless when Enron filed for bankruptcy on Dec. 2.

Lay will remain on the board of directors but will retire as an employee, which entitles him to a lifetime pension of $475,000 per year, according to Enron's 2001 proxy statement.

That presumes Lay is credited for service through age 65.

The multiple criminal, congressional and US regulatory investigations into Enron's stunning collapse are taking much of Lay's time and making it "difficult to fully concentrate on what is most important to Enron's stakeholders," he said.

The US justice department has assembled a task force to investigate potential financial fraud at Enron, while the Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating conflict of interest and accounting issues. Lay is due to testify on Feb. 4 before the Senate commerce committee, one of at least eight committees probing Enron.

Lay, who once considered US President George W. Bush a personal friend and was his biggest political contributor, would likely find Washington an unfriendly place. Even the White House has severed all ties with Enron.

"This doesn't change the president's focus which is on the criminal investigation, which will continue," White House spokesperson Jeanie Mamo said of the resignation.

As Enron was disintegrating, Lay made calls to top Bush officials including Commerce Secretary Don Evans and Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill but found no help from the administration that had called on him to help formulate its national energy policy months before.

"He has fallen on his sword, and I think it is in the best interest of Ken Lay and the company," said John Olson of Houston investment bank Sanders Morris Harris, who has known Lay professionally for two decades. *Reuters*

Lay, once lauded as a visionary, now scorned

By Andrew Kelly

HOUSTON—Ken Lay, who resigned as chair and chief executive officer of bankrupt Enron Corp. on Wednesday, was once lauded as a visionary of the energy business but more recently vilified as a callous profiteer.

Often credited with almost single-handedly creating the new industry of energy trading, Lay has also been criticized for cashing in on the California power crisis and enriching himself by exercising options and selling Enron stock as his employees lost their life savings in the company's dramatic collapse.

Lay, 59, said he was leaving the company he transformed from a stodgy natural gas pipeline operator into the nation's seventh biggest business because the numerous investigations into its bankruptcy were taking up too much of his time.

"I want to see Enron survive, and for that to happen we need someone at the helm who can focus 100 percent of his efforts on reorganizing the company and preserving value for our creditors and hardworking employees," he said in a statement.

In early November a stunned Lay, dazed by the rapid chain of events that forced the once mighty Enron to agree to a humbling buyout by smaller rival Dynegy Inc. told reporters: "The last three weeks haven't been a lot of fun."

But things would get worse as Dynegy pulled out of the deal, catapulting Enron into the largest bankruptcy in US history and the justice department, congressional committees and US regulatory agencies launched investigations into the company's murky finances.

Though he has kept a low public profile since Enron's Dec. 2 bankruptcy filing, Lay apologized to investors in mid-November, saying Enron had made bad investments outside its core energy business, taken on too much off-balance sheet debt and engaged in partnership deals that led to conflicts of interest. *Reuters*

'Clear link' between Singapore cell, al-Qaida found

SINGAPORE—Singapore authorities said Thursday they had uncovered further evidence of a "clear link" between 13 suspected Islamic militants arrested last month and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network.

'Investigations in recent days have found new evidence that supports further the finding of a clear link between the detainees and the al-Qaida," the government said in a statement.

Commenting on the evidence Home Affairs Minister Wong Kan Seng said: "The new finding shows a very direct link between the Jemaah Islamiyah group detained here and the al-Qaida leaders in Afghanistan."

The 13 suspects were arrested last month by agents of the Internal Security Department (ISD), but two were subsequently freed.

They allegedly plotted to bomb US targets in the city-state, including a busload of American sailors and the US Embassy.

The new evidence was a video tape containing footage of a busy suburban subway station that was allegedly was to be the target of a bomb attack.

Authorities claim the tape was found in a secret compartment in the home of Mohamed Khalim bin Jaffar, one of the thirteen still detained under the island's Internal Security Act which allows for detention without trial.

The government says the tape was similar to footage found in the rubble of an al-Qaida leader's home in Afghanistan and which was handed over to Singapore on Dec. 28.

The tape found in Jaffar's home had no voice commentary and is likely to be the original tape of the one found in Afghanistan, the government said. *AFP*

Australia's immigration crisis worsens

SYDNEY—Officials said Thursday they had treated four asylum seekers at an Outback detention center, including a child, after they tried to harm themselves in what a news report called a group suicide attempt.

In an escalating immigration crisis for Australia, Channel Seven television said the refugees at the Woomera internment camp in remote South Australia state had tried to hang themselves, but officials would not confirm that report.

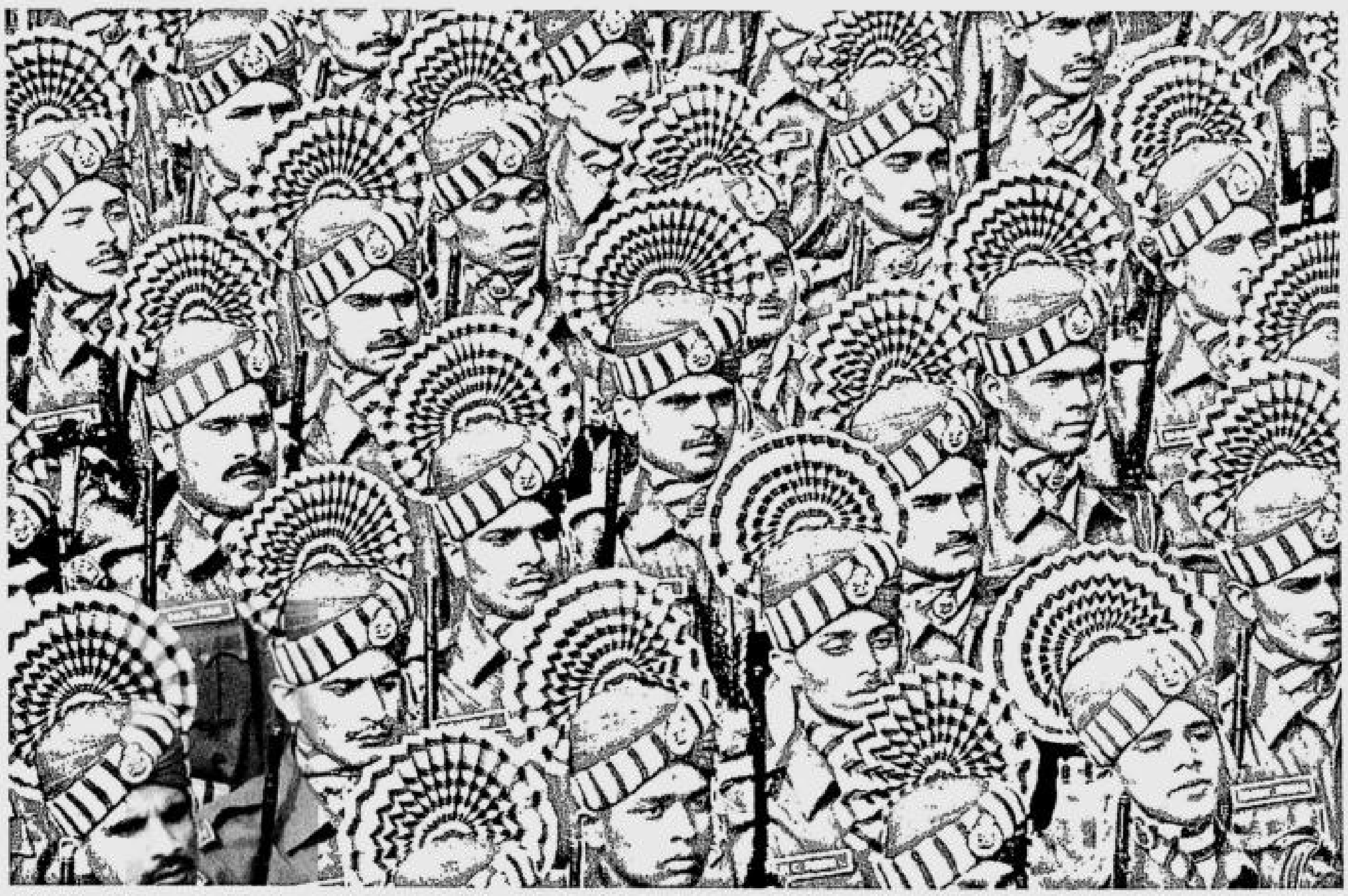
The Department of Immigration said Thursday that the three adults and one child, whose age was not given, had been moved to the camp's medical center for treatment. The department would not release details of the group's injuries or the treatment they were receiving.

However, South Australia state Human Services Minister Dean Brown said he had been notified that a parent at the camp had threatened to hang children.

More than 200 mostly Afghan asylum seekers are on hunger strike at Woomera, a former missile testing base in the desert, to protest their treatment. Dozens of the protesters have sewn their lips together, and the government said Wednesday that two children had also had their mouths stitched by adult detainees. About 40 others at the camp have swallowed potentially lethal cocktails of shampoo and detergent in an apparent suicide attempt.

The protest have also spread to the Maribyrnong Detention Center in the southern city of Melbourne, where about 25 detainees are refusing to eat or drink.

Brown said Thursday that government officials were removing five unaccompanied children under the age of 14 from the center. Seven other children are being investigated for signs of abuse, he said. *AP*



INDIAN **soldiers march during a rehearsal for the Republic Day parade in New Delhi Jan. 23. The Republic Day Parade, where India traditionally shows its military might and cultural diversity, has been scaled down this year because of the heavy deployment of men and armor on the border with Pakistan. India was declared a republic on Jan. 26** REUTERS

Calcutta police detain 55 in hunt for gunmen who attacked US center

CALCUTTA—Calcutta police said Wednesday they had detained around 55 people in their hunt for the gunmen who shot dead four policemen and injured 20 others outside the American Center here.

Hundreds of detectives scoured this eastern Indian city for the unidentified men who rode up to the center on motorbikes early Tuesday morning and opened fire with AK-47s at several dozen police guards changing duty.

Calcutta police chief Sujoy Chakraborty said two Bangladeshi nationals and an unnamed Islamic scholar were among those detained for questioning in connection with the attack.

He did not give details of the three suspects but said their detentions were linked to "certain clues" the police were pursuing.

Some police sources put the number of people picked up in the "hundreds" and said a majority of them were Muslim residents.

Meanwhile, a US Federal Bureau of Investigation officer arrived in Calcutta to help with the investigation, police said.

"The FBI investigator will inquire into the incident on his own and may share information with Indian investigating agencies whenever it is necessary," chief police investigator Somen Mitra told reporters.

"The Indian investigating agencies will jointly investigate into the attack which is an attack on a US interest," he added.

Earlier Calcutta police chief Chakraborty had ruled out any possibility of a joint inquiry into the attack with the FBI.

"They can probe the terror attack on its own but there will be no joint inquiry," he said.

Mitra said police were trying to identify those behind the attack with the help of a video camera installed at the American Center. *AFP*

US jets strike artillery site in Iraq

WASHINGTON—US warplanes attacked an anti-aircraft artillery site in southern Iraq Tuesday for the second time this week, responding to "hostile Iraqi threats" against coalition aircraft patrolling a no-fly zone, US military officials said.

A spokesperson for the US Central Command said the aircraft used precision guided weapons to attack the anti-aircraft artillery site near Tallil, 270 km southeast of Baghdad.

An anti-aircraft artillery site near the same location was struck by US warplanes on Monday, the first US air strikes in southern Iraq since Nov. 27.

In both cases, military spokespersons said the air strikes were in response to "hostile Iraqi threats against coalition aircraft monitoring the no-fly zone, including enhancements of its air defense systems.

"It looks like they were trying to enhance air defense systems they had in place," said Gunnery Sgt. Charles Portman, a spokesperson for the command.

The spokesperson would not say, however, whether the strike was in response to a buildup of Iraqi air defenses in the south or to a particularly attack. *AFP*

Woman wants archbishop husband back

SEOUL—A South Korean woman Thursday demanded the return of her Zambian archbishop "husband," who abandoned the Catholic Church to marry her before changing his mind on pain of excommunication.

Maria Sung, 44, demanded to be given news of Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, who last May infuriated the Vatican by marrying Sung at a mass wedding organized by the South Korean Unification Church.

"The Vatican must show humanity by giving Archbishop Milingo back to me, his wife, whatever the circumstances are," Sung told a news conference in Seoul.

The former archbishop of Lusaka, 72, thought the better of abandoning his vows of celibacy and risk excommunication when in August he said he would return to the Catholic fold. *AFP*

Vietnam finds lost, but not forgotten, war dead

By Kevin Doyle

KOH THOM, Cambodia—Vietnamese Army colonel Hai Tri fought US military forces 30 years ago in the tangled jungles and open rice paddies on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border.

The Vietnam War—and Hai Tri's fighting days—ended in 1975 when the US-backed government of South Vietnam fell.

But earlier this month the 53-year-old veteran returned to Cambodia's former battlefields on a mission of a different kind.

His task was to search for the remains of thousands of his comrades, killed in operations inside Cambodia, whose bodies are still missing.

Cambodia agreed in August 2000 on a five-year operation allowing Vietnamese teams to search and recover soldiers missing from as far back as the 1950s when Vietnamese nationalists fought French colonial rule in what was then Indochina.

Around 58,000 Americans were killed in the Vietnam War, while the North Vietnamese Army and southern communist Vietcong lost nearly 1.5 million. Some 300,000 are still missing.

Officials estimate that around 22,000 of Hanoi's missing soldiers are in Cambodia—killed in decades of conflict against the French, then US forces and then the Khmer Rouge, toppled in a Vietnamese invasion in 1979.

In early January, following a tip off from former Vietcong soldiers, Hai Tri's team found 15 war dead in shallow graves under the hardpacked earth of what is now a Cambodian school playground.

Seven kilometers inside Cambodian territory, the school was built just over a decade ago, its builders unaware that in 1972 it was a Vietnamese communist base and field hospital where many slain fighters were buried.

School was suspended as a dozen mostly young Vietnamese dug long pits in the playground.

Incense sticks smoldered in the brown earth, the recovery team's attempt to bestow Buddhist sanctity to the bundles of age-ravaged bones they uncovered.

"I feel very happy and very sad when we find the bodies of our former fighters," said Hai Tri, who led the excavation.

"We get excited when we find a body, but at the same time we have sympathy for the person who died." *Reuters*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2002 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER A17

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
23 Aurora St.,Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION
Tony Bergonia, Assitant Editor

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. Nos. (082) 244-1770 to 71;
Fax no. (082) 2441771
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

GMA ADVISER'S CLAIM

Gov't on track in 1M jobs target

DAVAO CITY—The government is right on schedule in its aim of creating a million jobs by the year 2004.

Luis Lorenzo Jr., presidential adviser on agriculture and jobs creation, said that for the last 75 days, the Macapagal administration has created 42,628 "real and sustainable jobs," which could increase to 1,031,477 jobs by 2004.

Lorenzo said these placements were mostly in the agriculture sector.

He said the government's target would be easier to achieve "if everybody will become part of the solution, instead of the problem."

Lorenzo said the government has employed a strategic framework for the program, which entails the identification of markets and businesses, locating suitable production areas, determining competitive attributes and jobs created, identifying bottlenecks and finding out what kind of government assistance is needed.

The task of the government, he said, is merely to facilitate market forces and build up the confidence of investors as a result.

He said eventually the task of creating jobs should be handled by the private sector.

Isabela province has the highest number of jobs created with a total of 9,000 as of the end of December.

Davao del Norte, Sultan Kudarat, and Zamboanga del Norte are among the areas in Mindanao that have agreed to commit to the program for a total of 6,200 hectares for corn production, 700 hectares for rice cultivation, and 800 hectares for coffee production.

Lorenzo said the government also recognizes the role of small entrepreneurs and businessmen in the program, "since with their ability to build new companies, they can create 10 jobs, 100 or 200 jobs."

"Is one million jobs doable? I believe it is with the help of the people and a positive attitude," he said.

The government's program, he said, would also help address the country's insurgency problem, particularly in Mindanao. ***Joel Escovilla and Ayan Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Death of kidnap victim haunts woman

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—She would soulfully sing "Valentine," a gift to boyfriend Guillermo Sobero this Valentine's Day if he were still alive.

After almost two months of release from her Abu Sayyaf captors, Marife Rosadeno manages to live her new life away from any memory that will remind her of the bad experiences of the kidnapping that cost her boyfriend's life.

In an interview over rgMA radio station here, Marife said it still pains her to think about her boyfriend and the kidnapping victims from the Dos Palmas Resort.

When asked to sing a few lines of their favorite song, Marife never had a second thought.

"You opened my eyes and showed me love unselfishly . . ." she sang.

According to her, this was the piece she sang to Sobero over the phone on their last Valentine's Day.

Her voice awed radio listeners. Some said this might be one of the reasons Sobero fell in love with her.

Right now, 22-year-old Marife is not ready to entertain any suitors. Sobero was her first boyfriend.

"When the wound heals," she said.

The announcement of the reopening of Dos Palmas in March has already reached Marife but she said she would not go back to the resort because it reminds her of everything that changed her whole life and her future. "I will go there maybe someday but not now."

The two met at Dos Palmas in February last year where Marife used to work.

They exchanged phone calls and messages until Sobero came back on May 25 to celebrate his birthday.

Two days before his birthday on May 27, the bandits seized 20 guests and staffers, including him and Marife.

Marife still plans of pursuing her second degree in computer science. Sobero had wanted her to finish the degree before he would marry her and bring her with him to the United States.

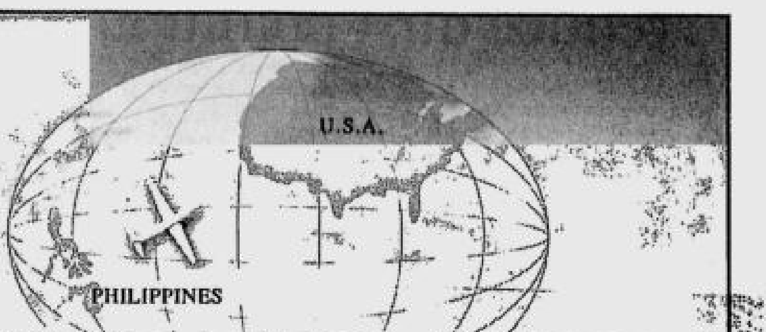
Marife also welcomed the idea of military exercises in Mindanao to be participated in by American soldiers.

"If it is the only way they could rescue the Burnhams and the other hostages, then why not?" she said.

The Dos Palmas Resort is all set to reopen in March after getting a fresh financial deal with some institutions.

The resort closed last October after hosting the Ms Earth beauty pageant.

The management has not yet announced the exact date of the reopening. ***Jofelle Tesorio, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***



DON'T LEAVE FOR AMERICA WITHOUT A U.S. COLLEGE DEGREE

Whether you intend to pursue an MBA in a prestigious leading US Graduate School or intend to start a new life with a better paying job, secure your tomorrow with the required qualification. Have that competitive advantage.

Obtain a Bachelor's degree in General Business accredited by America's most prestigious accrediting body. Possible only at Makati's iAcademy of Management and Economics and New York's Excelsior College Strategic Alliance.

The International School of Management and Economics (iAME)
Tel.: 896-23-55/56/58 Fax: 896-2351/61 E-mail: iame@pacific.net.ph
Spring Term starts on: Feb. 04, 2002 Summer Term: June 03, 2002
Fall Term: Sept. 02, 2002.

COURSES OFFERED:

BSBA Major in Management and Marketing • MBA for Bankers and Senior Executives (Customized) • MBA for Civil Service Compliance MBA Major in General Management • Ph.D. in Management

EDUCATIONAL FINANCING AVAILABLE THROUGH CITIBANK PAYLITE.

For inquiries, please try to contact us or better yet, fill up the necessary information below and mail / fax it back to us.

The Registrar PDI
International Academy of Management & Economics (iAME)
1061 Metropolitan Avenue, San Antonio Village, Makati City

Name: Tel. No./Cell. No./Fax No.: ___
Address:
I am interested in enrolling in: (Please send me some more information.)
___ Diploma in Management ___ BSBA ___ MBA ___ Ph.D. in Management

Mel Tiangco with some beneficiaries of Bisig Bayan.

Ang mabisang mag-alaga, umaraw man o umulan, maaasahan

Hindi lang sa pag-ulat ng balita maaasahan si Mel Tiangco. Ito'y alam na alam ng ating mga kababayang natulungan na ng Bisig Bayan.

Sa outreach program na ito, kasama si Mel tumulong sa mga nangangailangan ng mga bagay tulad ng pagkain at gamot sa iba't-ibang dako ng bansa. Kahit ano pa man ang sungit ng panahon o tindi ng trahedya, ang taos-pusong pangangalaga ni Mel ay tiyak na mararamdaman.

Gaya nga ng Pharex Medicines. Tumaas man ang presyo ng bilihin o tumama man ang kung anong krisis, maaasahang mananatiling abot-kaya ang presyo ng Pharex. At umaraw man o bumagyo, mapapagkatiwalaan ang bisa at kalidad ng Pharex Medicines. Ito ang alagang Pharex.

Sa panahon ng pangangailangan, dito nalalaman kung sino talaga ang maaasahan.

Mel Tiangco at Pharex: Alagang Maaasahan

Presyong Tapat,
Alagang Sapat.

PHAREX
Medicines

For further inquiries/comments,
call the Pharex Hotlines: 924-2158 or 924-2170
E-mail us at pharex@pascuallab.com or write to
Pharex Healthcorp. 821 EDSA, South Triangle, QC.

Negros board asks DENR to force mining firm to reduce dust pollution

BACOLOD CITY—The Negros Occidental provincial board has urged the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) to impose sanctions on a mining firm that allegedly failed to install safety measures against dust pollution despite repeated orders from the MGB.

The appeal was contained in a resolution unanimously passed on Wednesday, a week after 278 residents in Sipalay City complained of various respiratory diseases due to dust pollution from the tailing ponds of the Maricalum Mining Corp. (MMC).

The resolution said Leo Van Jaquan, MGB acting regional director, should compel the MMC to comply with the MGB's previous order that the mining firm should put up a "Flooding Irrigation System (FIS)."

The MGB ordered the MMC on Aug. 17, 2001 to put up an FIS, which would reduce dust from the mining firm's Tailing Pond No. 3.

The MGB issued the order to prevent dust pollution from the tailing pond after the MMC closed its copper mining operations on July 2, 2001 after prices of cooper fell in the world market.

But the mining firm did not comply with the MGB order. Instead, it installed coconut fronds on the tailing pond.

But the resolution said that based on the MGB's findings, these coconut fronds were ineffective in reducing dust that continues to endanger the health of residents.

The resolution also said that the MMC failed to submit an environmental conservation plan to MGB.

A copy of the resolution would be sent to Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez to bring to his attention the complaints of residents in Sipalay, 178 kilometers southwest of this city.

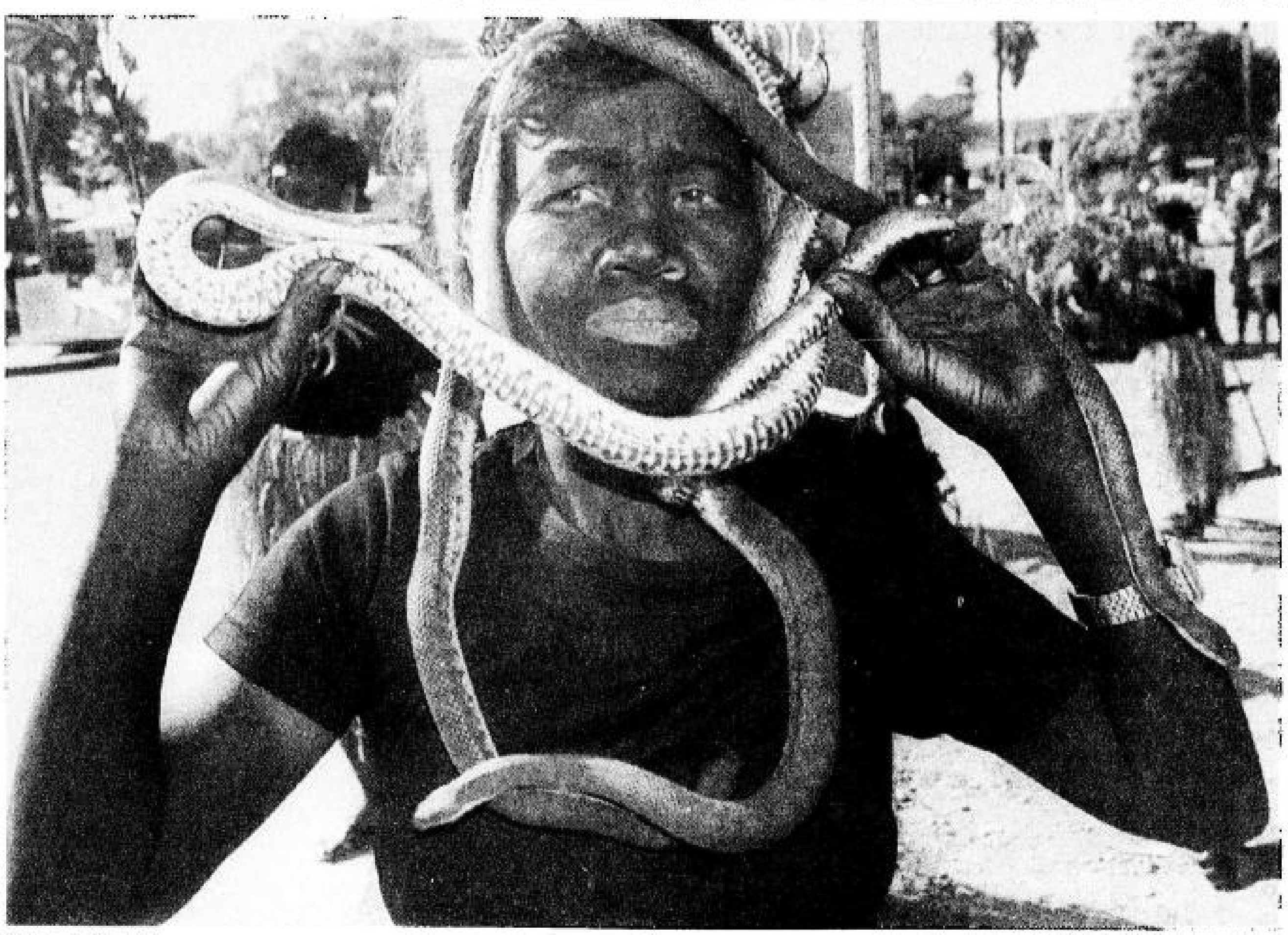
Some 278 residents from eight barangays in Sipalay complained on Jan. 18 that they had been suffering from bouts of fever, cough and colds because of dust pollution from the tailing pond.

The dust, they added, had also contaminated their water supply like their deep wells and even their food.

The affected areas are Barangays Gil Montilla, 1, 2, 3, 5, Mambaruto, Cabadiangan, and Nauhang.

The Sipalay City council earlier passed a resolution, requesting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to require the MGB to enforce its order for the mining firm to install pollution control measures.

The city council also asked Gov. Joseph Marañon to intervene in the dust pollution problem. ***Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau***



JOE HARESH TANODRA

SNAKE PAL

A member of the Maninikop tribe from Caano, Kalibo, Aklan displays his pet snakes during the 790th Ati-Atihan Festival in Kalibo, a religious feast that draws hundreds of tourists every year.

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Luzon and Eastern Visayas including Northeastern Mindanao will have cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	HI31° Lo 22°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Hi 23° Lo 13°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 16°
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 19°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 21°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Hi 28° Lo 19°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29° Lo 24°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Cebu	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 23°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy	Hi 34° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy	Hi 30° Lo 22°
Davao	Partly Cloudy	Hi 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/01/25/02

ROUNDUP

Buguey vice mayor nabbed

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Police arrested Vice Mayor Loreto Alipio of Buguey town and his three aides on Tuesday for illegal possession of high-powered firearms. Arrested in separate raids in Barangay San Juan in Buguey were Alipio and farmers Estefanio Sabal, Orlando Tabutaco and Eduardo Alipio. Seized from them were seven high-powered firearms and bullets. The arrest came after residents complained that Alipio and his supporters had been harassing them. ***Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau***

La Salle feast day

LIPA CITY, Batangas—La Salle schools mark the feast day of their founder St. John Baptist De La Salle through a joint celebration dubbed "La Salle 2002" or "LS2K2" today at the De La Salle Lipa Sentrum. Members of the Lasallian family in Luzon will attend this third annual Lasallian celebration, which coincides with the 350th birth anniversary of St. John Baptist De La Salle, patron saint of teachers and founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, a Catholic religious congregation that manages and supervises schools.

De La Salle

Fake recruiters charged

CABANATUAN CITY—Seven Central Luzon residents sought the help of the National Bureau of Investigation in running after their recruiters who gypped them of thousands of pesos for non-existent jobs abroad. Each of them paid their recruiters from P25,000 to P180,000 for high-paying jobs in Malaysia or Italy. Five of them reached Malaysia while two others reached Thailand. After staying in safehouses in those countries for two months, they were deported for possessing fake documents. They filed charges against their recruiters identified by the NBI as Leliza Espina of Jaen, Nueva Ecija, and Leoniza Vicente of Parañaque City. ***Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Kennon Road opens

BAGUIO CITY—Kennon Road, which has been closed since Jan. 13, will be open to light vehicles starting Jan. 24. President Macapagal-Arroyo provided P50 million to finance the rehabilitation of the 35-kilometer road. Portions of the more than 90-year-old road were damaged by Typhoon Feria in July last year. The Department of Public Works and Highways said restoration of road cuts, asphalt overlays and riprap and drainage repairs were done in 10 days.

Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

DECS SYNDICATE

Applicants hit sale of teaching jobs

MATI, Davao Oriental—The education department recently launched its recruitment program for new public schoolteachers, but education graduates here who are scrambling to get teaching jobs, said the department's new slogan "Bawat Graduate, Bayani at Marangal" sounds more like an "election campaign pitch" for Education Secretary Raul Roco.

They alleged that some education officials actually asked them money so they could land teaching jobs.

"Can we be called heroes and exemplary when we are being made to buy teaching jobs? If that is what they mean by being heroes and exemplary, then how sorry the state of Philippine education is. We will also end up selling high school and college diplomas to our students to produce more 'heroes and exemplary' citizens of this miserable country," said Joanne, a teacher applicant said.

She claimed to be one of the victims of an alleged syndicate operating in the DECS, which sells teaching jobs.

Other teacher applicants who refused to be identified for obvious reasons said unscrupulous education officials here asked them P20,000 to P30,000 each.

Other "goodies" such as roasted pigs or cows were also asked from them.

Some female applicants said they were even asked for sexual favors in exchange for teaching jobs in Mati.

Juan Taloma, schools division superintendent, said he wanted the complaints documented so that an investigation could start.

But even without formal complaints, Taloma said he was moved by the seriousness of the allegations that he started asking people around.

"I called up a district supervisor here who was rumored to be asking money from the teacher applicants. Naturally the district supervisor denied it. That's the problem now because we could not start a formal investigation . . . unless the victims themselves would come out in the open and formalize their charges. I assure them that once they formalize their complaints, I will be the one who will file charges against those erring education officials," he said.

Taloma said he also wanted the investigation to start soon because he does not want his name dragged into the scandal.

"If in the field, school principals and district supervisors have asked money from teacher applicants, it was possible that they used my name. They would say it's for me. They could always use my name," he said.

One teacher applicant said that despite having paid the amount demanded by officials more than two years ago, he did not land any teaching job.

"I decided to hang on, hoping it (appointment) will come out soon. Making complaints this time would not be productive because I have yet to get an appointment. If I (complain), the more they will not accept my application and they would most likely gang up on me for smearing their reputation," another applicant said.

Taloma also admitted that teacher applicants themselves were bribing education officials.

"There was an instance when an applicant whom I interviewed here in the office offered some money to me. He said 'Sir, my father told me that whatever you ask for, we will give you.' I told him 'God damn it. The more I will not accept you. So there are instances really when the teacher applicants themselves would insist on buying teaching jobs," he said.

But Taloma said that was a separate case as he vowed to crack down on unscrupulous education officials.

He, however, urged the victims here not to directly file their complaints with Roco because under normal procedures, it should first pass the division level.

Taloma also urged media "to help me in exposing those who are behind this syndicate if ever it exists. Please convince the victims to formalize their charges and I assure them of my all-out support." ***Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Rats invade farms in town in Nueva Ecija

By Anselmo Roque

PDI Central Luzon Desk

LLANERA, Nueva Ecija—Field rats have attacked farms in this town, ravaging crops that are ready for harvest.

"The field rats came out of their burrows. They occupied roads and even pathways," said Rodrigo Custodio, a rural development specialist who has a demonstration farm in Barangay General Luna here.

He said the rats appeared to have destroyed crops in the town and their presence has worried farmers.

"I thought they were just stones scattered on the road. I just learned later that they were rats when they scampered away when my vehicle passed by them," Custodio said.

He noted that the rodents came out when the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) started releasing irrigation water this month in eastern and northern Nueva Ecija.

He surmised that the late release of water into the fields might have given the rodents longer time to reproduce in their burrows.

The late release of irrigation water for the dry season cropping was reportedly due to the rehabilitation work done on the irrigation canals in the northern part of the province.

Custodio said the flame-throwers used by farmers to kill the rats, though effective, were not enough as the Department of Agriculture has provided only one flame-thrower for each barangay here.

This contraption, which was devised by inventors in Nueva Ecija and Laguna to kill field rats, was introduced to local farmers only about three years ago. It is a "knapsack type" gadget that uses a mixture of gasoline and kerosene.

Custodio said massive extermination of rats should be done in each village to minimize the destruction on crops.

He said a one-hectare field planted with rice in his village was destroyed by rats in just one night. Some other farmers, he said, reported that the rats were attacking their seedbeds.

Custodio said he is thinking of enclosing his farm with galvanized iron sheets to prevent the rodents from attacking his crop.

"It may be a little expensive but it wouldn't be as big as the yearly losses in the destruction caused by rats," he said.

A pair of rats can multiply to more than 1,000 in a year, reports said.

A DA official in the province said 15 rats staying in a hectare of rice farm could reduce the expected harvest by 50 percent.

Town officials back Alvarez order on mines

KEY officials of Tampakan town in South Cotabato and the entire association of barangay chairs there have rallied behind Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez, following his order transferring the financial and technical assistance agreement (FTAA) from WMC (Philippines) Inc. to Sagittarius Mines Inc.

An FTAA holder has the exclusive right to explore and dig out mineral resources in a contract area. Sagittarius, armed with FTAA No. 02-95-XI, can now proceed in exploring and developing a large world class copper-gold deposit in Tampakan municipality, South Cotabato, believed to be the second largest in Southeast Asia.

"We of the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) of the municipality of Tampakan have declared that Alvarez's order . . . removes the remaining obstacle to generate business activities and employment in the area," said SB presiding officer and Vice Mayor Pedro Cagas in a statement.

Earlier, Cagas and all Tampakan councilors hailed Alvarez's order during the regular session of the municipal council, saying the Tampakan Project will be a "major source of eventual export earnings." The SB's unequivocal declaration followed the expression of support by Tampakan Mayor Claudius Barroso, who said: "The resumption of the Tampakan Project will usher in a major source of employment opportunities and business activities into our local community."

1,700 fake $100 bills seized during Cabuyao raid

CABUYAO, Laguna—Authorities raided on Wednesday night a residence in Barangay San Isidro in this town from where they seized 1,771 pieces of fake US$100 bills and treasury notes with face values of P9.3 million and arrested five persons.

The raiding team was composed of elements of the Southern Tagalog Police Regional Office, the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Laguna Provincial Police Office Special Operations Group.

Chief Supt. Domingo Reyes Jr., Police Regional Office 4 director, identified those arrested as Ruben Pesigan, 47, alleged leader of the group, jobless and resident of Barangay San Isidro; Felix Manaig, 47, fisherman, a resident of Calamba City; Lito Canilan, 38, fisherman, also of Calamba City; Dante Loyola, 43, fisherman, a resident of Cabuyao; and Maximo Anonuevo, 56, jeepney driver, also from Cabuyao.

Laguna police provincial director Senior Supt. Leon Nilo de la Cruz said the police operation was a result of intelligence reports on the proliferation of fake US dollar bills in Laguna province and nearby provinces, which prompted them to place Pesigan's group under surveillance.

When informed of the group's whereabouts, Reyes directed De la Cruz to immediately conduct police operations and coordinate with officials of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

Armed with a search warrant issued by Judge Alden Cervantes of the Cabuyao Municipal Trial Court, the team headed by Chief Insp. Arwin Pagkalinawan and BSP agent Andres Cantatal raided the place and arrested the suspects.

Initially, the team pretended to buy the fake bills, which were being sold by the suspects at P10,000 per bundle of 100 pieces.

The team then conducted the raid and caught the suspects in the act of manufacturing the bills.

The arresting team is preparing charges against the suspects. ***Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

Aetas drench landfill with boar's blood for luck

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—Aeta chieftains in this zone's Tarlac side butchered a wild boar "to protect" a landfill project said to be intended for Clark investors and Central Luzon communities.

Monday's *pang-atang* (offering) of the tribe was reported Wednesday by the German company Ingeneierburo Birkhahn and Nolte, the government's partner in developing the 100-hectare landfill in Barangay Kalangitan, Capas.

The ritual was led by Puroy Victoria, tribal chief of the Kalangitan Aetas.

Victoria, according to a statement from the German firm, called on the *anitos* (elemental deities) on the site to "guide" the "integrated sanitary waste management project," which still faces stiff opposition from many Aetas and local officials.

The project site is within the American military reservation turned over to the Philippine government and now managed for agriculture and industrial purposes by the Clark Development Corp.

Some 30 lowland farmers, tilling the areas there for several decades, left the site late last year after they agreed to receive financial compensation for their crops.

Some Aetas have also dropped their opposition to the project because of employment and other economic opportunities brought about by the project.

Without disclosing how many, the company said in the statement that Valencia, his fellow tribesmen and "lowlanders" have been hired as security personnel.

The company said it is building a concrete road and repairing two bridges leading to the remote village.

In the statement, Valencia scored those who continue to reject the project.

"Should they stop this, would they give us jobs?" he asked.

"We have waited since Marcos' time for help to come. I hope they (project opponents) would not stop this good opportunity for our village," Indong Ruben, an elder, said in the same statement.

Holy Spirit nuns assisting other Aetas opposing the project in defense of their claim to the ancestral domain said projects like this only showed the vulnerability of the tribesmen to forego the need for land and health.

The company and the CDC have not addressed the land issue but assured that the project is environmentally safe.

"The site, which will be built in phases, will be completely sealed from top to bottom with ultramodern plastic technology components to fulfill the technical and environmental requirements of modern waste disposal sites," the company said.

Already drenched by the boar's blood, the initial three-hectare site was being prepared for pilot testing, a requirement by the Tarlac provincial government.

According to the company, the project would eventually expand to 96 hectares which will host segregation, recycling and composting facilities; a final disposal facility; leachate (garbage juice) storage and treatment pond; run-off water collection system; retention basins; environmental buffer and regreening zones.

Red Fuentes, CDC environmental management chief, said the P100-million facility would "only serve Clark and parts of Central Luzon and not the waste problem of Metro Manila." ***Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Exec in tax scam flees to Canada

From page A1

the impeachment trial of deposed President Joseph Estrada, accused Desierto in a privileged speech Wednesday of covering up and bungling the investigation of the tax credit scams involving oil companies, finance officials and exporters.

Moreno said Desierto filed a flawed consolidated plunder case "destined for dismissal by design."

He said Desierto proceeded with a preliminary investigation of a consolidated plunder case involving all 12 Chingkoe companies instead of the agreed 12 separate plunder cases.

Word war heats up

The word war between Desierto and Moreno heated up when they held separate press conferences yesterday to hurl charges and counter charges against each other.

The Ombudsman threatened to file a case against Moreno in the House ethics committee for allegedly lying in his privilege speech.

"We might even take action against him, if he doesn't come outside. I am sure the House ethics committee will act upon that. I don't think they will allow any of their peers to lie before them," Desierto said.

Desierto said Moreno lied when he said that the Chingkoe couple and certain oil officials were not included in the criminal proceedings.

"Actually, the Fact-finding and Intelligence Bureau filed a complaint against all 12 firms of the Chingkoes, while the Task Force 156 filed only one complaint, pertaining to Diamond Knitting Corp.," Desierto said.

The Ombudsman then showed reporters an order instructing the respondents—the Chingkoe couple, Winston Chingkoe and oil executives Pacifico Cruz of Pilipinas Shell and Celso Legarda of Petron Corp.—to file counter-affidavits.

"Moreno knew about the order but deliberately suppressed the same in justifying his malicious accusations. It is for this reason that he will be charged before the ethics committee for grave misconduct," Desierto said in a statement.

Unperturbed

Moreno was unperturbed. He said he would welcome any case that Desierto might file against him.

Moreno challenged Desierto to answer "the detailed accusations (himself)" after the congressman noted that the Ombudsman had urged some finance officials to join him in his news conference.

He asked the finance officials not to allow themselves to be used as "props" in "putting some sense of credibility to a bankrupt institution."

"I appeal to the Department of Finance, Task Force 156 and all government agencies involved in the prosecution and collection of tax credit claims of the government . . . not to help Desierto because I know that they know that what Desierto has done, has undermined the prosecution and collection of these unpaid revenues," Moreno said.

The task force was reorganized by President Macapagal-Arroyo to reinvestigate the tax credit scam, which Moreno said might have cost the government P20 billion in lost revenues.

He described the case involving the so-called Jose Velarde accounts as "peanuts" compared with the tax credit scam.

Moreno was referring to the account believed to belong to Estrada and said to contain money from illegal gambling and other illegal activities.

He said he had asked Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho to help ensure that Desierto would not whitewash the government's renewed investigation of the tax credit scam.

"They need not be afraid of the Ombudsman," Moreno said, adding that the task force knew all about the facts of the case, including the perpetrators.

Ani's dare

In his press conference, Desierto dared Moreno to substantiate his allegations by filing charges in court instead of making his accusations through a privileged speech and "hiding under the cloak of parliamentary immunity."

"(His) are hypothetical accusations coming from a man who is desperately seeking much-needed publicity in a bid to jumpstart his political ambitions," Desierto said.

He also denied Moreno's allegation that he had met with Shell and Petron officials.

"That is a lie. That is malicious. Can you imagine the irresponsible conduct of Mr. Moreno? We find him a congenital liar. We are asking Mr. Moreno to make that statement outside Congress. That would be the basis for criminal action," he added.

Contrary to Moreno's allegations, no resolution has been filed by the Ombudsman against any person much more excluded certain persons such as oil company executives, according to Desierto.

"In fact, the preliminary investigation has just started," he said.

As for his alleged connivance with the oil company executives, Desierto said, "I do not know who these Petron and Shell officials are. It appears that he merely concocted that story and included it in his speech."

Shell, Petron

An official of Pilipinas Shell said Moreno was probably misinformed.

"We are not aware of any complaint against any official of Shell," Reynaldo Gamboa, Pilipinas Shell vice president, said in a telephone interview.

Gamboa said the company was not aware of any case in which oil companies were involved.

"What we know is that last year, a similar case was filed against a Shell official but the court dismissed it," he said. "We don't know about a new case."

Virginia A. Ruivivar, Petron corporate communications Manager, denied that the company was involved in the scam.

"We have never been involved in any scam to defraud the government. The unwarranted use of the word 'scam' in connection with our company undermined the reputation for good governance that we have carefully built over many years," she said in a statement.

Moreno dismissed Desierto's claims that he was out to get publicity out of the exposé to help his bid for a Senate seat.

Moreno disclosed that his exposé against Desierto would be handled by the House committee on good government.

Hearings

Hearings of the committee, chaired by Rep. Jaime Lopez, may start in two weeks' time, at the earliest, according to Moreno.

He said Desierto might refuse to attend the hearings on the grounds that the charges against him were politically motivated.

The hearings will allow the public to get to know what kind of Ombudsman they have, according to Moreno.

He appealed to members of the House that a full hearing be held in the impeachment case filed against Desierto. Francisco has accused Desierto of accepting bribes from Luke Roxas so that the Ombudsman would not investigate the involvement of Roxas' bank in the tax credit scam.

The House as a plenary is set to vote next week on the decision of the House committee on justice to junk the impeachment complaint.

Strengthened

Bayan Muna Representatives Satur Ocampo and Crispin Beltran said Moreno's revelations strengthened the allegations raised by Francisco against Desierto.

Ocampo asked his colleagues to hear out the new case against Desierto and "show that (they are) sincere with the cleansing process that it started when it impeached a corrupt President."

Beltran said Moreno's exposé deserved a "full blown congressional inquiry."

"Desierto is like a plague of corruption. The Office of the Ombudsman must be purged of elements like him," Beltran added.

The three Bayan Muna representatives in the House supported the impeachment complaint filed against Desierto by Francisco. *With a report from Ronnel W. Domingo*

THE DISAPPEARING CHINGKOES

Ombudscam: A study of the Ombudsman's paper trail shows that the big players are included in the fact-finding report but left out of the preliminary investigation.

Sept. 5, 2001
Fact-finding report:
Graft investigator Barcenal lists Faustino and Gloria Chingkoe as first of persons criminally liable

Oct. 17, 2001
Complaint-affidavit:
Graft investigator Roxas includes the Chingkoe couple as respondents in consolidated case, but now they are last on the list

Dec. 12, 2001
Mysterious flight:
One day before separate case is filed by Task Force, Faustino Chingkoe leaves for Canada

Jan. 3, 2002
Subpoena order:
Chingkoe couple no longer included among respondents in consolidated case

The case of vanishing suspects

From page A1

est investigation of the tax credit scam.

A fact-finding report filed by graft investigator Elena Barcenal dated Sept. 5, 2001, for example, named the spouses Faustino and Gloria Chingkoe as the first two of seven persons criminally liable for the "irregular and fraudulent transaction to the extent of P2,468,795,577—roughly half of the total value of the tax credit scam.

The complaint-affidavit filed by graft investigator Atty. Maria Olivia Elena Roxas on Oct. 17, 2001 includes the Chingkoe spouses as respondents—but now their names appear last on the list.

However, the subpoena order dated Jan. 3, 2002, issued by Pelagio Apostol, director of the Ombudsman's Evaluation and Preliminary Investigation Bureau, and based on the same complaint and same fact-finding report, excludes the Chingkoe spouses altogether.

Oil companies

The same fact-finding report by Barcenal found that 368 "fraudulently issued" tax credit certificates amounting to P1.595 billion "were also invalidly transferred to the two oil companies as there were no deliveries of oil products to the textile firms as represented to the center." Of the total amount, P679 million was "fraudulently issued and invalidly transferred" to Petron Corp. and P916 million to Pilipinas Shell.

The report did not conclude that oil firm executives were criminally liable, however, apparently taking at face value the assertion of Pacifico Cruz, general manager for treasury and taxation at Shell, that "the approval of TCCs were filed and handled solely by the transferors" and that the company "had no participation or involvement in that process at all."

Findings of the new Task Force convincingly show that it was impossible for the oil companies to have effected any deliveries to the Chingkoe firms—for example, Diamond Knitting—"for the simple reason that the corporation did not have any operations and, therefore, had no use for petroleum products."

While Barcenal's report was prepared at least a month before the newly reactivated Task Force initiated a series of meetings with Desierto, Assistant Ombudsman Edward Pagunsan and graft investigator James Viernes, the complaint-affidavit based on the report and filed by Roxas was prepared during the time of the meetings.

This complaint, however, does not name any oil firm executive as respondent.

In contrast, the first complaint filed on Dec. 13, 2001 by the new Task Force, reorganized by President Macapagal-Arroyo under Executive Order No. 38 on Oct. 6, did not only charge the government officials involved, including Antonio Belicena and Uldarico Andutan of the Tax Credit Center, but also the Chingkoe spouses and oil firm executives, namely Cruz of Shell and Celso Legarda, vice president of Petron.

The first separate complaint, focused on P131 million in fraudulent TCCs involving Diamond Knitting, one of 12 companies owned by the Chingkoes and implicated in the tax credit scam, was a result of the joint Task Force-Ombudsman meetings. In those meetings, Moreno said during his privileged speech, the two parties agreed, among other things, to file 12 separate Chingkoe cases because there was enough evidence to do so and because each company used a different way of pulling off the scam. "In other words, (it was agreed that) there shall be no consolidated case to be filed," Moreno said.

According to a Task Force official, the group was set to file the second separate complaint this month when they heard that the Ombudsman had instead decided to proceed with a consolidated case.

Moreno accused Desierto of filing a fatally flawed case "destined for dismissal by design." An INQUIRER comparison of the first separate complaint filed by the new Task Force and the complaint filed by Roxas for the Ombudsman tends to confirm Moreno's assertion that the consolidated case is weaker than it ought to be.

Small fry

In another interesting twist, Roxas' complaint included a certain Dina Malibat in the plunder charge.

Malibat is accused of stealing 48 dockets of TCCs belonging to the companies owned and controlled by the Chingkoes, based on the testimony of another employee of the Department of Finance. But, in a legal maneuver certain to raise new questions about the Ombudsman's selective use of evidence or "ombudscam," the employee's testimony naming the Chingkoe couple as the same persons who paid her a certain amount to convince Malibat to steal the documents in the first place was completely disregarded.

In other words, the one who stole the documents was charged, while those who paid her to steal them were not.

Ani urged to go on leave

By Volt Contreras and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

A CIVIL society group asked Ombudsman Aniano Desierto yesterday to take a leave as lead prosecutor in the cases against deposed President Joseph Estrada to enable him to answer allegations that he whitewashed a P5.3-billion tax credit scam.

Plunderwatch convenor Dr. Carol Araullo said the accusation of Misamis Oriental Rep. Oscar Moreno that Desierto had filed a fatally flawed consolidated plunder case against the Chingkoe Group of Companies raised a cloud of doubt over the Ombudsman.

"He should voluntarily inhibit himself from taking the lead in the prosecution of the Estrada cases," Araullo said.

"He (Desierto) should turn over the lead role in the prosecution of the Estrada cases so he can pay more attention to answering the serious accusation against him," Araullo said in a phone interview.

Plunderwatch, a group monitoring the progress of the Estrada cases in the Sandiganbayan, had earlier voiced its dissatisfaction over the state prosecutors' performance in the landmark cases.

The business community has also expressed concern over the tax credit scam.

A top official of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) said the alleged whitewashing of the P5.3-billion tax credit scam was sending a wrong signal to the business community that there was a different set of rules for big and small corporations in the country.

The PCCI official, who asked not to be named, said the alleged cover-up implied that one could get away with serious infractions if one was a big corporation and had the money to line the pockets of government regulators.

GMA, JDV confirm MLSA draft exists

From page A1

stay here.

House Speaker Jose de Venecia also confirmed the existence of the draft but added that there was a "lack of communication" about the negotiations for the MLSA but that the Macapagal administration had not deliberately withheld information only that it failed to properly inform the public.

President Macapagal clarified to Palace reporters that the MLSA document which some lawmakers had seen was the one proposed by the United States but without any inputs from the Philippine side.

Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos was the first lawmaker to disclose the contents of the MLSA which she said had already been signed during a privilege speech she delivered earlier this week.

But the President countered yesterday that it was only a draft "submitted by the US. So, I formed a committee to look at their (US) proposal. So, there is no working draft. There is just a proposal," she said yesterday.

The draft, she noted, had been circulating though it still did not contain any "input from the Philippine side."

Review

The President disclosed that she has formed a technical committee to review the US version of the MLSA.

The other day, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said that Ms Macapagal had created an inter-agency committee "months ago" under Executive Order No. 57.

Earlier, Tiglao had denied that there was an MLSA, not even a draft, and suggested that Marcos had a fake document.

A senior official had told the INQUIRER that the MLSA was signed during a meeting in Hawaii between Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes and Admiral Dennis Blair, commander in chief of the US Pacific Command.

The draft MLSA released by Marcos showed AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva and Blair as signatories.

Villanueva denied the MLSA was a done deal but admitted he signed a "draft MLSA."

Despite Villanueva's admission, Tiglao still insisted there was no draft at all.

The MLSA, as indicated in the copy obtained by Marcos, was an arrangement between the defense departments of the Philippines and the United States.

Bypass Guingona

The senior official intimated that the MLSA was crafted as a defense arrangement in order to bypass Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. who is known to oppose the agreement.

Villanueva and Reyes have said that the MLSA, once finalized, will have to be signed by Guingona as co-chair of the Mutual Defense Board that implements the RP-US Mutual Defense Treaty.

De Venecia said that the MLSA was necessary to support the joint military training exercises or Balikatan which is going on in Basilan.

But De Venecia proposed that the draft MLSA should be reviewed carefully by the departments of defense, justice and foreign affairs and should have the inputs of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

But the MLSA would be an executive agreement that does not require ratification by the Senate, he added during ABS-CBN's "Point Blank" program on Wednesday night.

"Since it (Balikatan in Basilan) will run for six months, then you would need some kind of framework of understanding or agreement to support it and for future exercises but now we are speaking of a very specific mutual training program in Basilan called Balikatan," De Venecia said.

De Venecia said the Balikatan exercises were supposed to take place in Clark but had been postponed in order "not to confuse" the people about the one taking place in Basilan, the lair of the Abu Sayyaf.

Not lack of sincerity

"I think it's not a question of lack of sincerity or honesty but I think it's lack of a communications program that should have been organized early on, to disclose this (MLSA) to the public as they are told," De Venecia said.

"I don't think the administration has been withholding anything from the public because even in the National Security Council (meeting Wednesday), there was complete transparency," De Venecia said.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo herself handled the situation in a masterful manner together with the secretary of defense and Justice Secretary (Hernando) Perez was especially eloquent in presenting the constitutional and legal issues, that's why even the leaders of the opposition supported the program and it was almost unanimous," De Venecia said.

Rep. Prospero Pichay Jr., House defense committee chair, also backed the MLSA, saying it was necessary to boost the international campaign against terrorism and to help the Philippine military neutralize the Abu Sayyaf.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

congratulates
the 2002 officers
and Board of Directors
of the

PANA
TRUTH IN ADVERTISING

The Philippine
Association
of National
Advertisers

on their induction
and 1st General Membership Meeting
January 25, 2002

Mabuhay, and more power!

See pages E1 to E8
for the details of the event

First batch of armed US troops lands in Zamboanga

From page A1

generator, a forklift, boxes of office supplies and crates of M-16 rifles from the C-17 plane, which later took off for a US military base in Guam.

Cimatu said the US forces had come from the US Pacific Command headquarters in Hawaii and the US base in Okinawa, Japan.

65 in Zambo area

The arrivals bring to 65 the number of US troops in the Zamboanga area for a six-month mission to train Filipino soldiers in fighting the Abu Sayyaf, a band of Moro bandits that has been linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

Another 14 Americans arrived Wednesday at the Mactan Air Base in Cebu.

Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao earlier said the exercise was aimed at upgrading the Philippine military's counter-terrorist capability. It is expected to get underway as early as next week.

The first month would entail preparation and finalization of a "curriculum" followed by four months of actual training. The final month would be used to "check the success" of the exercise, he said.

About 600 US troops, including 160 from the Special Forces, are taking part in the exercise that is widely seen as the biggest expansion of Washington's war against terrorism outside Afghanistan.

Some of them, however, will be visiting combat zones even if the Philippine Constitution bars foreign soldiers from fighting on sovereign soil.

The members of the US Special Forces will be divided into 12-man teams that will join Filipino troops in combat patrol. Armed US soldiers could return fire if attacked by the Abu Sayyaf, notorious for kidnappings and beheadings.

The bandits are holding an American missionary couple and a Filipino nurse hostage on nearby Basilan island.

At least eight of the bandits were killed in a gun battle the other day with Philippine troops in a jungle area in Basilan, an island three times the size of Singapore.

"Two bodies were found there with rifles and there were two wounded on our side. We are still scouring the area for the others," Cimatu said, adding that the bandits had dragged away at least six of their dead comrades.

Coming to grips

The use of American combat troops has polarized the country, with financial markets welcoming such US assistance in neutralizing the bandits.

Even so, the Philippines and other Southeast countries are fast coming to grips with a new and more potent form of terrorism unleashed by Bin Laden's al-Qaida network, according to analysts.

Dozens of suspected al-Qaida members have been arrested in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines in recent weeks, largely through intelligence sharing and cooperation among regional police units.

Questioning of those apprehended indicated they were operating under the al-Qaida umbrella, with most of them planning to destroy American installations and overthrow governments in the region.

"Quite clearly, all Southeast Asian governments recognize the need to share information in a coordinated manner across borders to fight this new form of terrorism," said Andrew Tan, a security analyst at Singapore's Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies.

Tan said governments in the region were entering into uncharted waters as they battled the threat posed by the al-Qaida, which he described as "a multinational network equipped with modern and sophisticated technology."

"We have to understand that the al-Qaida has members with 40 different nationalities, operates globally as a network with many subsidiaries and geared to take full advantage of freedom and technologies offered by a modern globalized economy," he said.

"This is a new form of terrorism for governments that had previously fought only traditional terror groups," said Tan, who specializes in broad conflicts in Southeast Asia, including insurgencies.

Nearly all Southeast Asian governments have fought insurgencies. Malaysia and Thailand, for example, have managed to suppress decades of guerrilla warfare staged by underground communist parties.

The Philippines is fighting Muslim and communist guerrilla groups while Indonesia faces threats largely from Muslim separatist groups.

Al-Qaida cells

Only after the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States did governments in the region—where Muslims make up more than half of the 500 million population—identify al-Qaida cells in their backyard.

The Philippines arrested last week an Indonesian believed to be an explosives expert of an organization called Jemaah Islamiyah, which police say is a "terror group" operating in Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia with links to the al-Qaida.

The arrest of Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, 30, allegedly the main recruiter of Filipino members for the al-Qaida, came after a tip-off from Singapore and led to the seizure of a cache of explosive meant for regional attacks. Ghozi had five passports with different names.

The al-Qaida network's tentacles have reached not only the Philippines but normally tranquil Singapore, where 13 people were arrested last month for allegedly plotting to attack the US Embassy and other targets.

In Malaysia, authorities have picked up more than 20 people, some of them believed linked to Zacarias Moussaoui, a Frenchman on trial in the United States for his alleged role in the Sept. 11 attacks.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said the suspects, who have charged with trying to overthrow the government, were trained in Afghanistan by the Taliban and the al-Qaida.

But Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, has expressed caution over branding some of the militant groups in the country as al-Qaida cells.

Foreign Minister Hassan Wirayuda said last week that "al-Qaida's existence in Indonesia is more talk than fact."

But analysts say President Megawati Sukarnoputri was treading cautiously in her efforts to weed out suspected terrorists.

"Given the presence of large groups of militant organizations, she has to be quite wary about upsetting them because of domestic political sensitivity—given the size of the groups and the following they command," said Tan.

He added that a substantial number of locals in the region joined the al-Qaida network after being influenced by extremist Islamic ideology.

"They have been very receptive when the al-Qaida walked in and expanded its network," Tan said. ***Reports from Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AP, AFP and Reuters***

High-speed boat included in US military aid to RP

THE UNITED States is giving the Philippines eight helicopters, a high-speed naval vessel and 30,000 M-16 rifles that can be used in joint operations against the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

"The high-speed cyclone class cutter (naval craft) will be useful because the terrorists have a habit of using high-speed boats," a US official yesterday said. "This thing will catch up (with them)."

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said other equipment in the military aid package included night-vision goggles and weapons that would allow M-16 rifles to shoot grenades.

"This equipment will be turned over to the Philippine military to be used as they desire," he said.

Five of the helicopters arrived on Thursday.

The United States has also delivered a C-130 cargo plane, which arrived soon after President Macapagal-Arroyo returned from a visit to Washington where she held talks with President George W. Bush last November. ***AFP***

GMA asks: Would you rather have IQ or charisma?

From page A1

Macapagal said in reference to Estrada, a movie actor who essayed tough-guy-with-a-soft-heart-for-the-poor roles that he later successfully parlayed into politics.

"Some say I have no charisma, I have no 'it . . .' (But) I would like to ask (you), would you rather have 'it' or IQ?" the President asked.

"My predecessor . . . had so much charisma, too much charisma. But I am not here to make people laugh. I am here to make people's lives better," she added.

"(Which) would you (prefer)? Someone who knows the job or someone who just pretends? Someone who works hard or someone who just drinks hard?" she asked.

Hard work, intelligence, integrity

Estrada was adored by the masses despite his reputation for gambling and womanizing and his work ethic of relegating governance to his intellectually superior aides and advisers.

But Ms Macapagal maintained that hard work, intelligence and integrity are more important than an entertaining personality when it comes to running a country.

"The fate of the nation will not unfold on the silver screen but in the unforgiving light of reality where only hard work pays," she said.

Ms Macapagal said she intended to continue focusing on poverty alleviation, as she asserted that she was not campaigning early for the 2004 elections.

"It is my critics who are campaigning this early against me. Are they afraid I (will) succeed in helping our country?" she said.

"Now as ever, the main fight is against poverty, and the principal objective is to give the 40 percent of people, who have little or nothing, a material stake in their country so that it becomes, in their eyes, worth working for," she said.

People power against poverty

The President also called for an "Edsa III" but not in the same form as the unsuccessful uprising staged by Estrada supporters from April 25 to May 1 last year.

She said "a real Edsa III" must "complete the circle of the Filipinos' unparalleled political achievement by putting an end to underdevelopment and poverty."

"I therefore reach out to all our people once again, whichever side of the divide the past two Edsas left them and you: Join me now in the third but probably the greatest revolution of all—people power against poverty, people power for progress."

The President also asked the public for "a measure of patience," saying she was leading the country amid the "greatest global economic crisis since the Great Depression" of the 1930s.

She, however, noted that the country had made significant progress where "bigger and rigid economies failed."

She cited the stability of the peso, the over-subscription to the last round of bond offers and the return of stock market to levels before Sept. 11, 2001.

But Ms Macapagal warned that all these might go to naught because of "blame tossing" and "campaigning against each other."

"There is more than enough time before the 2004 elections," she said.

"We can quarrel over who the leader of this country should be (in the) next election but we must work together to make this country worth quarreling about," the President added.

Future war games under veep's call

By Christine Herrera

FUTURE military exercises will have to be approved by Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. and not by President Macapagal-Arroyo, according to Victoriano Lecaros, spokesperson of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

He also said the Visiting Forces Agreement Commission (VFACom) headed by Ambassador Jaime Yambao would continue to strictly monitor all "Balikatan" exercises.

Lecaros made these clarifications yesterday to end speculation that Malacañang had "clipped" Guingona's powers in the matter of visiting US troops.

"While the President is the architect of foreign policy, I cannot imagine her taking over the Vice President's function and signing approvals each time American troops come in," he said. "That's inconceivable. She has better things to worry about."

Lecaros said it was only on the issue of the deployment of 660 US troops that the President would give her approval, per the opinion issued by Justice Secretary Hernando Perez, her official adviser.

Perez was prompted to issue the opinion when Guingona, who is concurrent foreign secretary, questioned the constitutionality of allowing the US troops to stay up to a year.

Guingona had said that period went beyond what was allowed in the VFA, which provides for "only short visits not lasting more than four weeks."

But Perez said the President could approve the extended stay and period of training.

"After this military exercise involving 660 American troops, everything will go back to regular procedure," Lecaros said. "The issue has been settled. The Vice President, as chair of the Mutual Defense Board, will have to sign approvals." ***With a report from Dona Z. Pazzibugan***

Gov't assures Senate on terms of engagement

From page A1

change if public opinion in the United States demanded retaliation. He cited as an example the American movie "Behind Enemy Lines," wherein the US military went to war to rescue a Navy pilot who had crossed the border of Bosnia despite repeated warnings from his commander.

But Golez said that possibility was remote judging from the Philippines' previous experience with the US military. He also cited differing conditions.

"That will not happen to us because you are talking here of a rogue state (Afghanistan)," Golez said. "But in our case, the US considers us a friendly nation and we are dealing with each other with mutual respect. But it's really very difficult to discuss hypothetical situations. We only do that in war games."

Militant groups continued to rage against the Balikatan and announced plans to launch more mass actions.

Six members of the Youth for Nationalism and Democracy (YND) again held a lightning rally at noon yesterday in front of Malacañang, this time to condemn Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. for bowing to the deployment of US troops in the country.

"He was not true to the Filipino people," DJ Janier of the YND said. "These politicos and (President Macapagal-Arroyo) are deluding themselves if they ignore history and believe that allowing (a) foreign military presence in a supposedly sovereign nation could ever be good for the national interest."

Anti-riot police moved quickly to prevent the demonstrators from unfolding their banners, and forced them back to the Don Chino Roces Bridge.

On Wednesday, police violently dispersed a similar rally by a group belonging to the National Union of Students of the Philippines.

Renato Reyes Jr., spokesperson of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, said that rally at Malacañang's Gate 7 "signaled the start of vigorous nationwide protests by Bayan and the broad Junk VFA Movement leading to a big mass action on Feb. 4, the 103rd anniversary of the Filipino-American War."

According to Reyes, protest actions will hound Ms Macapagal "wherever she goes, including the US, Canada, and Europe."

Combat or training?

At the hearing, Golez, Reyes and Justice Secretary Hernando Perez repeatedly said US troops were here for a training exercise with the Philippine military in a combat zone.

"Is this combat, or is this training?" Reyes said. "They are here for training purposes, and we're the ones to conduct this training exercise."

Sen. Blas Ople expressed the belief that the United States was ready to accept anything that might arise in the course of the exercise.

"American soldiers have fought many wars around the world and accept death as part of it," Ople said.

Reyes said a provision in the RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) was explicit about the waiver of claims by either government for damage, including death and injury, during the exercise.

He said it was clear to the United States that its forces were not supposed to react to any operational matter without coursing it through the Philippine commander of the exercise.

"That is clear to them—that they have no command, control or authority to conduct (pursuit or rescue) operations," Reyes said. "The operations will be conducted by Philippine troops."

Former Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who attended the hearing as president of the Philippine Constitution Association, said he believed that the US military was here to get actively involved in the rescue of the Abu Sayyaf's American captives, Martin and Gracia Burnham, and in combat operations against the bandit group.

Enrile said the Abu Sayyaf problem was a domestic police matter and did not fall within the scope of the VFA.

"They (Abu Sayyaf) are not foreign invaders," he said. "They are local criminals. They do not pose a threat to territorial sovereignty or integrity. When you capture them they cannot be called prisoners of war because we've not declared any war. It is only Congress that can declare a war."

Legal matters

Enrile also said it was only the United States that listed the Abu Sayyaf bandits as international terrorists because of their supposed links with the al-Qaida network of Osama bin Laden.

He pointed out that the Philippines had no law making terrorism a crime, and a terrorist, a criminal.

"There can be no crime without a law," he said.

Former Sen. Francisco Tatad, president of a new advocacy group called Citizens' Caucus, agreed with Enrile.

Tatad also said the legal basis for the Balikatan was not the real issue but the inconsistent views of the government on the circumstances and nature of the US deployment.

Fr. Joaquin Bernas, an expert on constitutional law, said the legal framework for the conduct of the exercise was simple and clear.

"The situation is really a factual issue," he said. "If it is for training, then there's no problem. But if it is to fight the Abu Sayyaf, then the government should think about that."

Bernas also said it was immaterial whether Guingona disagreed with the President on the matter because the President could always override the foreign secretary as the chief architect of the country's foreign relations.

"On a legal matter, that is clear. On a factual matter, that is not very clear, and on a wisdom matter, we can always debate on that," Bernas said.

The senators said the government should make a clear definition of who are considered international terrorists. They said the US characterization of the Abu Sayyaf as an international group had no binding effect on the Philippines.

Continuing probe

In Davao City, the Mindanao Tri-People's Caucus (MTC) urged the Senate to continue its investigation of the US deployment.

"The (VFA) allows the presence of foreign troops for training purposes only. Whether the current presence of American troops fits within this provision is uncertain," the MTC said in a statement.

It added: "While these so-called consultants are not at present combat troops, they are armed and will be carrying out exercises in known combat zones. The target of these exercises will no doubt be the Abu Sayyaf."

Earlier, the Netherlands-based National Democratic Front said the arrival of US forces in Zamboanga City and Basilan was a prelude to the transformation of the Philippines into another Afghanistan or Vietnam.

Maj. Noel Detoyato, newly appointed spokesperson of the Armed Forces' Southern Command, denied this.

"(The Americans) are here solely to train Filipino soldiers in the latest techniques in fighting terrorism," he said.

But in Dipolog, a senior military official who asked not be named said the Philippine government was only using the VFA to cover up its supposed ineptness.

"The military is ashamed to admit that it cannot stamp out the Abu Sayyaf, which it has always described as a small group of bandits," the official said in Filipino.

On the other hand, members of the Filipino community in Washington, D.C. commended the US deployment in Mindanao.

Charmaine Castro, a former Davao broadcaster and Washington resident for three years now, said "a high percentage of Filipinos in the US capital believes that the Philippine military is not well trained to counter terrorism."

'Armada'

An "armada" of fishermen's boats and floats will fill Manila Bay on Feb. 4 when the militant fisherfolk group Pamalakaya launches its protest action against the joint military exercise in Mindanao.

Pamalakaya chair Rodolfo Sambajon said his group would mount a reprise of its anti-VFA "fluvial parade" at the bayside of Roxas Boulevard in Manila, not far from the US Embassy.

"This is the people's Balikatan showcasing national rage against the foreign forces of evil and local demons now playing with fire in the guise of joint military exercises," he said.

Sambajon also said the only way to stop the military exercise was to flood the streets with mass actions and other forms of protest.

Lawyer Vicente Balbuena, national co-chair of the Kilusan Para sa Pambansang Demokrasya (KPD), warned the President that she could be impeached for allowing the joint military exercise, which he described as unconstitutional.

Balbuena said the KPD was considering two options—to write the President regarding the supposed violation of the Constitution and to mount protests. He said it would consult with other militant groups for a united action.

Rafael Mariano, chair of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, also warned of more protest actions against the Balikatan.

"Farmers, particularly in Western Mindanao and Central Luzon, are set to launch protest actions in February to oppose the ongoing US intervention and superb display of puppetry by the President," Mariano said.

Pastor Saycon, secretary general of the Council for Philippine Affairs that helped put Ms Macapagal in power, said the administration must clarify the presence of US troops in Mindanao. "We will never support the presence of the troops as long as no explanation is coming," he said. ***With reports from Philip C. Tubeza, Gerald G. Lacuarta and Alcuin Papa in Manila; Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau; and Ayan C. Mellejor, Anthony S. Allada, Charlie C. Señase and Lullie A. Micabalo, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

High-caliber . . .

From page A1

currently deputy chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines for education and training (J-8).

TEODOSIO

WURSTER

Teodosio was the commander of the 1st Marine Brigade that spearheaded in 2000 the capture of Camp Abu Bakar, main headquarters of the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"We are crashing the gates of Abu Bakar," Teodosio was quoted as saying as troops were marching toward the camp. "Soon we will unleash the dogs of war."

Teodosio and Wurster will serve as "training directors" for the controversial Balikatan exercise dubbed "Kalayaan-Aguila 2002," which will see the involvement of 660 US Special Forces members and support personnel.

Malacañang thinks the designation of Wurster as Teodosio's counterpart bespeaks the level of the United States' commitment in crushing the bandit group holding hostage an American missionary couple and a Filipino nurse.

Wurster "has the right qualifications to determine the requirements of our training needs," said Rigoberto Tiglao spokesperson for President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"What's the use of having intensive training if the US will not send someone of high rank?" he said.

J-8

Tiglao told reporters that Teodosio and Wurster would have the primary responsibility of training two Light Reaction Companies.

"That's why it's J-8—(meaning) training. You should worry if it is led by J-3, which is for operations," he said.

Wurster's career has mainly involved special operations.

A command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours using various aircraft, he has flown over desert, maritime, arctic and mountainous environments on rescue missions.

From July 1994 to July 1996, he served as assistant for electronics, communications and special programs at the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict, Forces and Resources in Washington, D.C.

He was appointed commander of the Special Operations Command in the Pacific in October 2000. In addition, he is commander of Joint Task Force 510, a crisis response force under the US Commander in Chief for Pacific Air Forces.

Wurster is also in charge of a Joint Special Operations Task Force under a bigger Joint Task Force of the US Commander in Chief for the Pacific.

He is a 1973 graduate of the US Air Force Academy.

Based on a previous conversation with the INQUIRER, Teodosio is an advocate of maneuver warfare aimed at achieving quick and decisive victories.

He is a member of Class 1972 of the Philippine Military Academy, and is a respected Marine who has gone through the platoon, company, battalion and brigade levels.

After the campaign against the MILF, Teodosio was named commandant of the AFP Joint Command and Staff College.

Numbers

Two US Special Forces members will be assigned per company in Basilan, and six at the battalion headquarters.

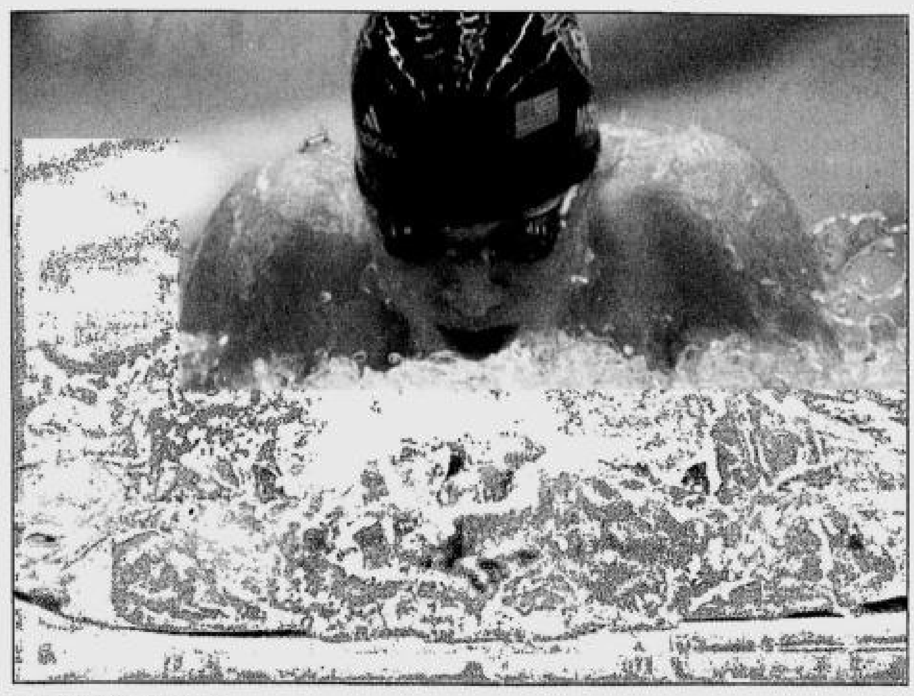
With three companies comprising one battalion, this means 12 Americans will be attached to each battalion.

Eight battalions—six from the Army and two from the Marines—are operating in Basilan.

The bulk of the American forces, numbering 250, will be assigned at the Air Force Base in Mactan, Cebu.

WACK WACK BASH

Tuason teeing off today in Bill Shaw golf



RECORD SWIM AP

American Ed Moses is seen in action during his record-breaking 100-meter breaststroke race during a World Cup swim meet in Stockholm, Sweden, Wednesday. Moses clocked 57.47, bettering his own two-year-old record by. 19 of a second. It was Moses' third world record during the two-day event.

THREE hundred forty-two aspirants will gun for lucrative prizes at the start today of the 13th Bill Shaw Golf Classic at Wack Wack, with the record five cars as main come-on in the two-day series.

TONICHI TUASON

BONES FLORO

Among those teeing off is Butch Tuason, the recently resigned chair of the Philippine Sports Commission.

"I have to brush with my golf after having neglected it during my watch at the PSC," said Tuason, a member of the Tuason clan known for golf excellence.

Also seeing action is Rod Feliciano, president of the National Golf Association of the Philippines, who is paired with his bosom friend, Benny Ricafort.

Three Toyota cars and two Mitsubishi vehicles will be up for grabs as hole-in-one prizes at both Wack Wack East and Wack Wack West, sports and games committee chair Tonichi Tuason announced.

"Finally, the one we've all been waiting for is here," said Tuason, who worked double-time with golf director Bones Floro in putting everything in order for one of the country's most talked-about club event.

The member-guest tournament will adopt the aggregate format at Wack Wack East and the scramble at Wack Wack West.

The huge field will be teed off on both courses, with the 171 teams chasing a record number of prizes in the tournament held to honor Wack Wack's founder, Bill Shaw.

Among the major sponsors include Herma Corporation, Taylor Made adidas, Tanduay Dillery, Inc. Golforce, Inc., Bingo Bonanza, Unilever Philippines and POC-EDC as the major sponsors. S.C. Kymco Pilipinas has pledged one DJ-50 world.

"I can now heave a sigh of relief," said Wack Wack general manager S.P. Malbarosa of the series supported by the Philippine Sports Commission, Customs Clubmakers-KZG, Pacsports, Performance, Discover Suites, Citra Metro Tollways, Smart Communications, Inc., Samsung Electronics and Pacific Paint and Manufacturing. "All the spade work is over."

Chess series slated

A SECOND batch of enrollees for the first series of 2002 Milo Checkmate Saturday-only clinic will be accepted until tomorrow, Jan. 26, at three venues.

The chess clinics, conducted during Saturdays only, are being held at St. Benedict College (HS student lounge) inside Alabang Hills, Muntinlupa from 7-11 a.m.; Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (Badminton Bldg.) in Vito Cruz, Manila from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Greenhills Shopping Center (2/F Centermall) in San Juan at 2:30-6:30 p.m.

Also available are two Sunday sessions, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-6 p.m. starting on Jan. 27 at Greenhills Shopping Center.

Tubid, Artadi power UE to victory

CEBU CITY—Stalwarts Ronald Tubid and Paul Artadi put on a big show as University of the East-Tanduay pulled a telling 94-72 victory over the hapless Salazar Institute of Technology yesterday in the Cebu Basketball League Sinulog Open at the New Cebu Coliseum.

After their stint with Ana Freezers in the ongoing PBL Challenge Cup, the two immediately flew from Manila to help turn things around for the Red Warriors.

True enough, the duo combined for 31 points to steer UE-Tanduay's win to the amazement of the crowd and improve its card to 1-1 after losing to Osaka Iridology, 72-87, on opening day.

CHAIRMAN'S CUP

President Arroyo poses with former President Fidel V. Ramos, Speaker Jose de Venecia, Camp John Hay Development (CJHDevco) Chair Robert John Sobrepeña, former Acting Press Secretary Mike Toledo and CJHDevco officials during the tee-off ceremony of the Chairman's Cup at the launching of Camp John Hay Manor, a five-star hotel facility in Baguio City, recently.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1992, Bulacan took 76 gold, 63 silver and 15 bronze medals to capture the 16th Central Luzon Regional Athletic Association meet at the Bulacan sports complex. Also today in 1993, Mike Potenciano timed 1 minute, 48 seconds to retain his Shell Autocross Challenge 4-wheel drive crown at the CCP reclamation area.

Saulog leads 'moto' fiesta meet winners

SEVEN-TIME national champion and Shell-Yamaha rider Jovie Saulog, San Pablo expert rider Johnny Garcia and executive rider Jun San Andres posted spectacular wins in the very successful San Pablo Fiesta Motocross last Sunday in Villa Reverina, Barangay San Rafael, San Pablo City, organized by MP Turbo.

In front of 10,000 people, lone Shell-Yamaha Rider Saulog bested the field of eight riders in the combined Pro/Expert category by winning both motos in dominant fashion. Caltex Revtex Rider Glenn Aguilar had to concede first place when Saulog took both holeshots and rode flawlessly in his Yamaha YZ426F. Aguilar suffered from the huge dust cloud thrown up by the 4-stroke machine of Jovie, including teammate Bebeth de la Cruz, who settled for third.

The ultimate post fiesta treat for residents of San Pablo and its neighboring towns was sponsored by Shell Advance Lubricants, MP Turbo Race & Rally Shop, BLTBCO, Fil-Estate Dev't Corp. & Speed TV. The event was held in cooperation with the San Pablo City government headed by Mayor Florante Boy Aquino, who also graced and awarded the winners in the event. More than 105 entries raced in the event that drew participants as far as Isabela, Pangasinan, Batangas, Quezon, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal and Manila.

San Pablo's own and Caltex Revtex rider Johnny Garcia was the local favorite of the event and he didn't let his city folks down when he bested the Expert division and the open Production categories. Garcia took the two race categories event though he faced tough competition from teammates Alvin Beech and Aldeine Valencia who placed second and third respectively in the Expert Category.

The two Villarde brothers, Brian and Mark, also from Caltex Revtex, placed second and third in the Open Production behind Garcia. Mark, however, took top honors in the Beginners Open Production and bested his brother Brian who finished second. Rodrigo Bumantag made it to the top three in the hotly contested Beginners class.

Caltex Revtex executive rider Jun San Andres made good on his promise to win this year by besting the Executive Class against Roman Liorente and JD Andrews. San Andres had to work hard for the win after struggling to get to the top when he was involved in a first lap melee that saw three riders crash. Andrews had a good day also when he bested the Power Enduro in his newly acquired YZ400F against Brian Villarde and superbike champion Toti Alberto.

Pasig River marathon gets under way Feb. 24

ONLY one month is left before the Pasig River Heritage Marathon blasts off from the Walled City of Intramuros on Feb. 24.

The race finishes at the new Global City of Fort Bonifacio in Taguig in a challenging, 42-kilometer course that passes through the cities of Manila, Mandaluyong, Makati, Pasig and Taguig.

The country's answer to the Boston, New York and Berlin marathons will cross 11 landmark bridges that give a clear view of the Pasig in a run that hopes to revitalize the famous river as well as provide runners with physical and spiritual challenges that will promote their overall well-being.

Marathon organizers, the Clean and Green Foundation Inc., said the last day of registration for the PRHM is on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, at the C&GFI office on the second floor of the FEBTC Building on Muralla Street in Intramuros or at The Orchidarium and Butterfly Pavilion at the Teodoro F. Valencia Circle at Rizal Park, Manila.

Inquiries may be made at tel. numbers 528-0504, 528-0976, 587-6376 and 527-6378.

The PHRM annual event, held every last Sunday of February that is now only on its second year, offers a wide array of cash, trophy and rewards for its participants. Project director Ramon Jacinto Socco said cash prizes amounting to a total of P350,000 will be awarded to the Top 30 Male and Top 20 Female runners in the 42-K event as well as the Top 20 placers in the shorter 5K Fun Run.

Xavier trips Uno, nears 1st round sweep

DEFENDING champion Xavier School downed UNO High, 85-79, Wednesday night and nudged to within a win of sweeping the first round of the Tiong Lian basketball tournament at the UNO gym.

Deadly Chris Tiu and shifty court general Tyrone Tang led three others in double figures as coach Mon Amador's Stallions blew hot, cold and then hot again to rack up their third straight win in the five-team tourney.

Tiu fired 22 points and Tang knocked in 21 while Bon Syiaco, Joseph Chua and the much-improved J.C. Yu contributed 17, 11 and 10, respectively, to pull Xavier away from a 43-43 halftime deadlock.

Another Xavier mainstay, Sammy Young, suffered cramps in the third quarter and managed to score only five points.

The scores:

XAVIER 85 - Tiu 22, Tang 21, Syiaco 17, J. Chua 11, Yu 10, Young 5, M. Lee 2, Tio 0, Yee 0

UNO 79 - Concepcion 19, Chong 14, Syki 9, Tiu 8, Sze 8, Ng 7, Yee 5, So 4, Que 0, Chua 0

Halftime: 43-all.

FIFA MEMBER

FIFA World Football President Josef Blatter (left) and Fifa Media Committee Chair Chuck Blazer (USA) confer the Fifa pin on Rep. Monico Puentevella (middle) as the only Filipino installed as a new member of the Fifa Committee.

THUNDERBIRD
ENERTONE
THE 1st READY-MIXED MAINTENANCE FEEDS
PRESENTS
THUNDERBIRD WINNING FORMULA
www.univet.com.ph
ARANETA COLISEUM
www.aranetacoliseum.com
THE BIGGEST COCKFIGHTING EVENT IN THE WORLD!
2002 WORLD SLASHER CUP
International 8-Cock Derby
CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS TODAY! 4 PM
JAN 25, 2002
HOSTS:
NENE ARANETA • ITO YNARES • JUN SANTIAGO • GERRY FEVIDAL • PACIFICO BERIN
HI-PROTEIN POWER PELLETS
BAXIDIL TABLET ANTIBACTERIAL
BEXAN B-12 with LIVER EXTRACT
VERMIGO Ang Berdugo sa Bulate
Get a surprise gift pack from Thunderbird! Just fill up this coupon and bring two empty pouches of Thunderbird Hi-Protein Power Pellets to the Thunderbird booth at the Green Gate lobby to claim your prize!
Name:
Address:
Game Fowl Population:
Tel. No.:
Signature:
"SPORTSMANSHIP IS OUR GOAL"

PSC COMMISSIONER

GMA virtually appoints Lydia

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday virtually appointed former Asian sprints queen Lydia de Vega-Mercado commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission.

"She's one of those I'm considering because I want to put some athletes who have been there and can show their experience," said the President. "They are the best people to judge how their fellow athletes should be treated."

De Vega-Mercado, who is also a councilor in her hometown Meycauayan, Bulacan, also works as a technical consultant for track and field under the administration of resigned PSC chair Butch Tuason.

The President earlier appointed another former athlete, Eric Buhain as PSC chair, replacing Tuason, who served for more than three years.

Buhain and De Vega-Mercado are both vocal about the conditions of the national athletes even during their reign as sports superstars in swimming and track and field, respectively.

"There are a number of nominees for commissioner of PSC," said Ms Macapagal, referring to the long list of applicants for the position.

Among the names being floated around are Marawi sports leader Punduma Sani and former boxing official King Yabut, who are both recommended by commissioner Cynthia Carrion, the only appointee of the President.

So far, the President has yet to act on the courtesy resignation filed by commissioner William "Butch" Ramirez. Hold-over commissioners Weena Lim and Richie Garcia have decided to stay put.

The President also said Tuason won't get any position from her administration "because he's a relative."

Said the President: "He's happy to go back to the private sector. "I mean, he's not poor anyway so he can always go back to his business (hunting)." ***With a report from Carlito Pablo***

SSC dumps SBC

SAN Sebastian College dumped San Beda College, 3-0, yesterday to notch its second straight win in the seniors division of the 77th National Collegiate Athletic Association tennis tournament at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

Nino Salvador outplayed Michael Lanuevo, 6-0, 6-0; Salvador and Arvin Ruel defeated Borgs Solpico and Emerson Ocampo, 7-6, 6-3, and Ruel won by default over Ocampo.

Letran joined San Sebastian on top after posting a 3-0 win over University of Perpetual Help-Rizal, while Mapua Institute of Technology notched its first win at the expense of Jose Rizal University, 3-0.

Meanwhile, reigning juniors titlist San Beda beat San Sebastian, 2-1. Nestor Celestino Jr. demolished Jaime Ochoa, 6-0, 6-1; Antonio David Lustre and Celestino defeated Jon Inri Grafe and J. Yadao, 6-1, 6-3, while grafe trounced Lustre, 8-3.

Letran blanked UPHR, 3-0, with victories coming from Miguel Narvaez over Aaron de Rama, 6-0, 6-0; Boris Chavez and Michael Basco over John Cabali, 6-0, 6-0; and Basco over Cabili, 8-0.

Bets 'oust' Tyson

LONDON—English bookmakers William Hill said Wednesday it had taken more bets on Mike Tyson being disqualified if he fights Lennox Lewis than for either to win the fight.

The English bookies cut the odds Wednesday on a Tyson disqualification from 6-1 to 4-1. William Hill has Lewis at 4-9 to win the fight and Tyson at 13-8.

"Those punters who are prepared to bet on the fight at this time are choosing to bet on a disqualification rather than one or the other winning," said spokesman Graham Shapre.

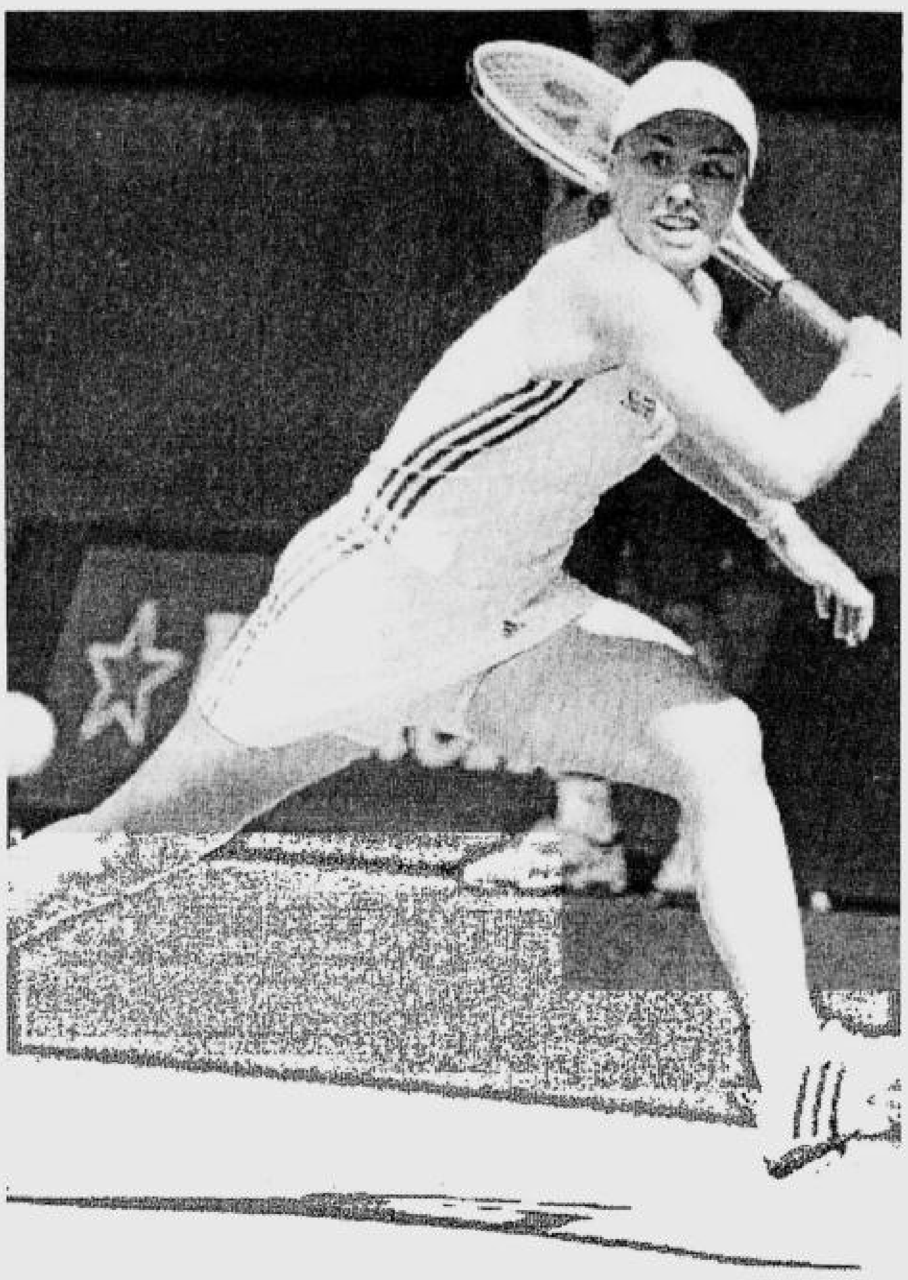
The future of the fight was thrown into doubt on Tuesday when a 20-man brawl broke out as Tyson and Lewis exchanged punches during a media conference in New York to announce the world title fight for April 6 in Las Vegas. ***AP***

Dance sport tonight

GAMEWORX Inc. will unveil the DanceworX-Dance Sport tonight at the 4th level of Festival Supermall in Alabang.

The event will be held every Friday from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Social Ballroom Dancing inside GameworX complex, which boasts of the biggest dance floor in the country at 500 square meters.

"We're inviting everyone to come and visit us here at DanceworX. This is just a start," said GameworX marketing manager Christian Datol.



MARTINA Hingis of Switzerland on the run in her semifinal match against Monica Seles in the Australian Open Tennis Championships in Melbourne yesterday. Hingis won, 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, in a dramatic match watched by a thrilled, nail-biting crowds. AP

Capriati, Hingis forge dream duel for crown

MELBOURNE, Australia —Defending champion Jennifer Capriati seized control after a shaky second set and advanced to the Australian Open finals with a 7-5, 3-6, 6-1 victory Thursday over Kim Clijsters.

Seeking her third title in her last five Grand Slam events, Capriati now faces a rematch of her 2001 final here with Martina Hingis.

Three-time champion Hingis reached her sixth straight Australian Open final by overcoming Monica Seles' power with agile retrieving, winning 4-6, 6-1, 6-4.

Thomas Johansson moved into the men's final with a 7-6 (5), 0-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 win later Thursday over Jiri Novak. Johansson, seeded 16th, will meet the winner of Friday's semifinal between hot favorite Marat Safin, seeded ninth, and seventh-seeded Tommy Haas.

Capriati once again had a hard time with Clijsters, who extended her to 12-10 in the deciding set in last year's French Open final.

After four consecutive service breaks, she won the first set with a forehand crosscourt and then a backhand error by Clijsters on an easy chance.

In the second set, Clijsters cut down on her errors and Capriati was missing frequently. The Belgian, seeded fourth, took the set with a sharply angled forehand half-volley.

Capriati saved one break point in the final set's first game and again began pressuring her opponent into errors.

She broke in the second game and again in the sixth, where she sent a deep lob that Clijsters misjudged and then couldn't recover in time to return.

Capriati won the final game at love on two backhand misses by Clijsters and two aces, including one on match point.

WBC president: Lewis-Tyson should push through

NEW YORK— The world heavyweight title fight between Lennox Lewis and Mike Tyson should go ahead on April 6 despite Tyson starting a brawl at a press conference, World Boxing Council (WBC) president Jose Sulaiman said here Wednesday.

Tyson ran forward and threw punches at the British boxer at a press conference Monday called to announce the fight which is due to take place in Las Vegas.

The American boxer's actions have put the fight in jeopardy as he could have damaged his chances of being granted a boxing license by the Nevada State Athletic Commission next Tuesday.

"I think that the fight will happen. If it were up to me, the fight should happen," Sulaiman said.

"All the people want it because they know this is going to attract the attention of the world. There is a lot of money involved in this fight. "It would be a shame not to give to the public what they have been waiting for for years."

He said Lewis should not be penalized for Tyson's actions and suggested the 20-million-dollar fight could be moved to another location.

"To stop this fight after what Tyson did would not be fair. Many others have done what he did in the past and got away with it.

"If it doesn't happen in the US, there's no problem. Even if it doesn't happen in the US, there are a lot of other places that would be glad to stage it."

The spectacular brawl took place in full view of the world's media.

Tyson walked across a stage to Lewis, whose bodyguard moved forward and grabbed Tyson as he approached the larger fighter.

Tyson back to normal

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

I HATE saying it again: Mike Tyson should be banned for life.

But, hey, before someone gets killed or maimed for life, will somebody please put the man away from crowds? For good?

Look, it's not safe being with Tyson in the same room anymore. I fear for Lennon Lewis' life once their scheduled fight pushes through. Tyson might sneak in a knife in his shorts the night of the fight.

One's never safe anymore with Tyson around. The roped arena is too narrow as to escape his savagery.

OK, Evander Holyfield had the luck to keep one ear intact when he fought Tyson the second time around in 1997. Tyson chew the other ear when that should not have happened at all.

Wasn't Tyson jailed for rape in 1992? Was that not enough reason to ban him from boxing for life?

We never learn.

After his release three years later in 1995, we bought his promise that prison life has made him a changed man. He even used Mao Zedong as his model in his "path to reformlandia."

Well, what do you know.

A year later, he climbed the ring on the pretext that he's a changed man. He behaved, yes. But that didn't helped his cause any. He lost by knockout to Holyfield.

Some 12 months after that, he was back. But instead of regaining the world heavyweight title from Holyfield, Tyson regained his notoriety.

Failing to gain ground in his bid to unseat Holyfield, Tyson bit off a good chunk of Holyfield's ear. It was an act that almost put to shame Lecter Hannibal's cannibalism.

He was tossed back to the doghouse. Alas, not for long. Tyson was soon back with his boxing license. Money speaks louder than values. In boxing, the mostly only saleable thing is the color of money.

Tyson, whether you like it or not, still sells. Boxing is so goddamn full of hustlers, who live by the codeword "a sucker is born every minute."

When Tyson tried to attack Lewis on Wednesday during a press conference to promote their fight on April 6, almost everybody thought Tyson was merely humoring the public. Only when blows were being thrown genuinely did people realize Tyson was his usual self: Normal. For, this you gotta believe, Tyson becomes abnormal when he is as meek as a lamb.

But wait till the con men of the game hand down their judgment. As boxing's top banana Jose Sulaiman announced, the show must go on. Tyson and Lewis must be allowed to fight on April 6.

This, despite the fact that Sulaiman himself was hospitalized after he got felled by Tyson's barbaric outburst on Wednesday.

Who said boxing is a sport fit for adults?

■

Bobong Velez is calling on all alumni of Vintage TV/Radio panel and Production staff to attend the Grand Reunion on Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m., at Bistro 110, No. 110 Carlos Palanca Jr. St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Suntay captures Bato Balani golf

SPORTS personality Anthony Suntay emerged the champion in the Class A division of the Bato Balani Golf Invitational tournament held recently at the Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa city, Batangas. Paul Hubilla of Makati City finished second.

The event was part of the 10th year anniversary celebration of the Bato Balani Foundation Inc. (BBFI), a non-stock, non-profit corporate foundation engaged in the management of educational development programs that will uplift the capability of people in the field of education.

Suntay proved to be the event's big winner as he also took home the trophy for the Most Accurate Drive. Mark So bagged the Longest Drive and Nearest to the Pin prizes.

Domingo Cirilos of Paco Catholic School, meanwhile, edged his colleague Jun Santioke to rule the Class B division. Alfred Chua was the winner in the Class C division while Rosebelle Woolf was the runner-up.

BBFI chairman Saturnino Belen Jr. led the ceremonial tee-off while BBFI Executive Director Elaine Go-Mapa gave a rundown of the organization's achievements and future projects.

Supporters and donors of the foundation participated in the tournament.

Other golfers who figured prominently in the one-day event were Suntay's wife Tet, Freddie Ortiz, Orlando Mercado, Enrique Caballero, Amada Javellana, Toots Policarpio, Elma Ropeta, Jun Sayson, Ronnie Gaviola and Ding Lozano.

The Bato Balani Golf Invitational Tournament is a special involvement of BBFI that aims to engage the support and invigorate the spirits of partners and donors.

It's go for Cebu bid in SEAG

CEBU CITY—The Cebu City Council gave the Cebu City Sports Commission the green light to tender its bid to co-host the 2005 Southeast Asian Games.

The resolution, authored by Councilor Sylvan "Jack" Jakosalem, was approved by the city council on Wednesday granting the Cebu City Government the consent to formally submit its bid to the Philippine Olympic Committee.

In the said resolution, Jakosalem indicated the seven sports that Cebu City is most capable of hosting—boxing, karatedo, judo, taekwondo, penchat silat or Silat Olarhaga), mountainbike and dancesports.

Cebu City Sports Commission Chair Jonathan Guardo is also looking into the possibility of Cebu also hosting gymnastics, weightlifting and archery apart from the events stipulated in the resolution.

Jakosalem also bared that Waterfront-Lahug general manager Patrick Gregorio is willing to host some of the events, particularly martial arts and other contact sports.

Danao City is being eyed for mountainbike while the Mandaue City Sports Complex is the prospective venue for dancesports.

The POC has been tasked to oversee the preparation for the SEAG with the support of the Philippine Sports Commisison.

Alabang paces Ladies golfest

BAGUIO CITY—Alabang Golf Club yesterday scored 153 points en route to an 11-point lead over host Baguio Country Club (142) in the premiere Class A Division of the 27th Baguio Ladies Golf Invitational Tournament at BCC golf course.

Sta. Elena was third with 140, mainly through the efforts of Fely Lopez. Lopez shot a day-best 42. Nancy Ortega had 35, Carina Ricamonte 32 and Tami Leung 31.

Defending champion Aguinaldo, gunning for a sixth straight title, struggled with 128, 25 points down against pacesetting Alabang. Philippine Navy was fifth with 125.

"The ball is round, and two more days. Like last year, we were behind but we still managed to capture the crown," said Aguinaldo's team skipper Belen Ampong, who topscored with 34.

Olive Pizaro and Glo Garcia led Alabang with 41 and 40 points, respectively. They were supported by Marl Mendoza (38) and Ana Marie Cruz (34).

Leny Cuyno of BCC scored 41 points. Teammates Lucy Tuazon shot 35, Sonia Bruce 34 and Edna Nevada 32.

BCC's Team B led Class B with 145. Alabang and Aguinaldo scored similar 134s and Villamor 133.

SPORTSWATCH

Knicks nip Raptors

TORONTO—Latrell Sprewell had 35 points, including 15 in the fourth quarter, as the New York Knicks ended their eight-game losing streak Wednesday with a 96-92 victory over the Toronto Raptors. Sprewell, who went scoreless in Monday's 43-point loss to Charlotte, held Vince Carter to 18 points on 6-for-23 shooting. Sprewell went 13-for-25 from the field for the Knicks, who ended their longest losing streak in 15 years. Alvin Williams had 23 points and Antonio Davis added 21 for the Raptors, who have lost two consecutive games after winning four in succession. **Complete results:** Knicks 96, Raptors 92; Celtics 98, Pacers 94; Hornets 111, SuperSonics 101; Pistons 104, Timberwolves 83. ***AP***

Las Piñas prevails

Games Today (Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
8 a.m.—AMACU vs Mapua (Srs.)
9:30 a.m.—Adamson vs Trinity (Jrs.)
11 a.m.—MMC vs JRU (Srs.)

LAS PIÑAS College defeated Mapua Institute of Technology, 70-61, Wednesday night to boost its quarterfinal bid in the National Capital Region eliminations of the 56th National Students Basketball Championships at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum. The win put Las Piñas in second place at 2-1, behind unbeaten San Sebastian College in Group D. Adamson also improved its record to 2-2 in Group B while Jose Rizal University downed Rizal Technological University, 89-73, for its first win in Group A.

Mosley-Forrest Sunday

NEW YORK—Shane Mosley and Vernon Forrest are fighting in the shadows of public attention despite their unbeaten records and unquestioned abilities. They fight on Sunday. They got together at a news conference Wednesday and had to shake off questions about Tuesday's Mike Tyson-Lennox Lewis news conference melee that was plastered all over the New York area newspapers and was a hot topic on television and radio. "That's the image that makes it hard for fighters like myself to get attention outside boxing," Mosley said. The two fighters also have to play second fiddle to college basketball. Only 5,000 spectators will be able to attend Sunday fight as Mosley defends his WBC welterweight championship against Forrest, the last man to beat him.

Moses breaks 3rd mark

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Ed Moses of the United States broke his third short-course world record in two days Wednesday, winning the 100-meter breaststroke in 57.47 seconds at a World Cup meet. Minutes earlier, Emma Igelstrom of Sweden shattered the women's 50 breaststroke mark with a time of 30.43. That beat the record of 30.47 set by China's Luo Xuejuan this month. "I'm really surprised," said Igelstrom, who's been training in South Africa. "My goal was just to win the race tonight. I did not aim to break the record." ***AP***

Buhain meets athletes

By Marc Anthony Reyes

BUHAIN

NEWLY appointed Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain yesterday vowed to "dive into" the concerns of the agency as he set a meeting with members of the Athletes and Coaches Association of the Philippines today at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex.

Buhain said he will try to hear what the athletes have to say about their living and training conditions at the RMSC and try to address their needs "in whatever way possible."

He added he's been heeding the advice of resigned PSC chief Butch Tuason to take good care of some 900 members of the national pool.

Acap, led by its president Jaime Sebastian, has been clamoring for repairs of the decrepit dormitories, which Tuason failed to do because the Congress has no appropriations for such repairs.

Tuason encountered at least three protest rallies and marches over the dormitories issues as well as the salaries and food allowances. Acap filed graft charges against Tuason before the Ombudsman and the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission.

"We will see what we can do when I look around tomorrow, I'll try what I can do to immediately solve their problems," said Buhain, who is the sixth man to hold the position since the agency was created in 1990.

Yet despite the appointment of Buhain, sources from the RMSC said athletes and PSC emloyees are still asking for the replacement of commissioners Richie Garcia and Weena Lim, who decided to hold on to their positions and leave their fate to President Arroyo.

Buhain is also set to personally meet Tuason on Monday for briefing and turnover ceremony.

The 32-year-old Buhain added that he will then talk to the national sports association heads right after meeting with the athletes and discuss the prospects in the Asian Games in Busan, South Korea.

Buhain's appointment letter:

MALACAÑANG
MANILA

Jan 23 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of existing laws, you are hereby appointed CHAIRMAN, PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION, vice Carlos D. Tuason.

By virtue hereof, you may qualify and enter upon the performance of the duties of the office, furnishing this Office and the Civil Service Commission with copies of your oath of office.

(Sgd.) HON. ERIC R. BUHAIN
Thru: The Executive Secretary
Office of the President
Malacañang, Manila

Marho cites boss Danding

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

SPORTS patron nonpareil Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco's shares stellar billing with the country's leaders of the horse racing industry on Sunday during the inaugural Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners Founders' Cup Racing Festival at the vastly improved Santa Ana Park.The racing extravaganza coincides with Marho's 28th founding anniversary.

Boss Danding of the giant beer conglomerate San Miguel Corp. and racing luminaries such as former Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing, the late Gregorio "Boy" Reyes, Augusto Santos and John Felix and Philippine Jockeys Academy director George Stribling will be honored with a three-day racing festival starting today and ending on Sunday.

Capping Sunday's 15 races is the blockbuster Eduardo Cojuangco Cup in honor of Marho's founding chair and president, with P300,000 going to the winner. Also on tap are the Mayor Bagatsing Cup offering a P200,000 paycheck and the Founders' Cup races, each with a guaranteed purse of P175,000 to the winner.

"More than a celebration of its 28th founding anniversary, this racing festival will be a fitting a tribute to the country's most distinguished horsemen who founded the Marho, the premier organization of race horse owners," said sportsman-businessman and Marho president Putch Puyat, the third man of the so-called Marho's Big 3 that included chair Sandy Javier of Andok's fame and racing heartthrob Hermie Esguerra, owner of Horse of the Year "Wind Blown."

The fact that it is now 28 years old is proof that the Marho is here to stay as the most dominant fraternity of race horse owners in the Philippines. And one reason why the most organization clicks so well is that its members and the other officers like Albert Trinidad, Jose Mari Franco and Rudy Mendoza are hell-bent to attain success despite the forbidding odds: guys with the zeal and grit and heart for the "king of sports." They are truly one in a million.

UNSOLICITED ADVICE. Flamboyant Go Teng Kok, track and field top honcho, says the ideal Philippine Sports Commission chair should have good management style, a person who knows how to handle and spend money wisely. He should stamp out corruption in the agency, show sincerity and impart honesty to the NSAs and athletes. Best of all, he shoul stop making empty promises.

World Slasher finals tonight

THE EXCITING 2002 World Slasher 8-Cock Derby winds up tonight (Friday) at the Araneta Coliseum, with four entries, led by former champion Jinfer of Pampanga's Jingco brothers and Jet Fernando and BL USA Golden Aces of battle-tested Boy Lechon, leading the international field with four straight wins at the conclusion of the four-cock elimination round last Wednesday night.

Two others, Spencer Winslet of Dicky Lim and JBB Agilawin Uma of Rep. R. Montilla, also scored four points entering today's four-cock finals of the blue-ribbon derby hosted by Big Dome owner Nene Araneta, three-time Rizal Gov. Ito Ynares and back-to-back Cocker of the Year, Jun "Idol" Santiago.

Finishing solo second place with 3-1/2 points after the elims was Mulawin I of Frank Berin and Rep. Rudy Albano, with 13 other entries landing in the money with three points each.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Gold Marlin 2. Day and Night 3. Triple Joy 4. D Greatest

Race 2—1. Favorite Trick 2. Bidang Bida 3. Blockbuster 4. Hurry Prince

Race 3—1. Steel Wheel 2. Norma's Pet 3. Diamond Buck 4.Enjoy D View

Race 4—1. Laguna Gold 2. Ilocos Queen 3. Selectee 4. Material Maker 5. Arriba King

Race 5—1. Prickly Heat 2. Real Material 3. Pussy Cat 4. Gypsy Soul 5. Isabel's Gossip

Race 6—1. My Preperido 2. Serena 3. Bound to Be

Race 7—1. Mark's Treasure 2. El Condor 3. Palachik 4. Irish Star 5. Arrogante

Race 8—1. Wing Commander 2. Bold Freddy 3. Society's Pleasure

Race 9—1. Flirting Hero 2. Gold Pyramid 3. Sunny Puddles 4. Speed Master 5. Latin Beat 6. Hacker

Pasay derby gets going

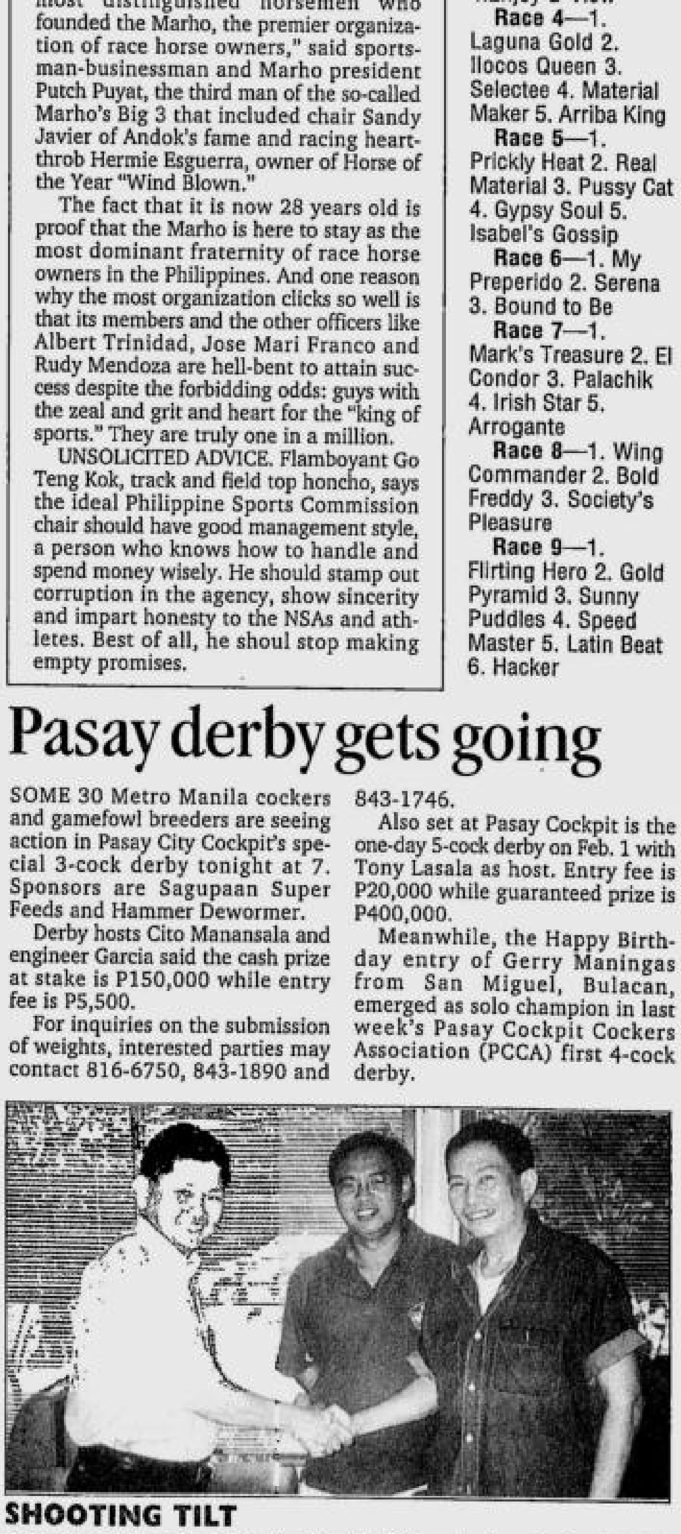
SOME 30 Metro Manila cockers and gamefowl breeders are seeing action in Pasay City Cockpit's special 3-cock derby tonight at 7. Sponsors are Sagupaan Super Feeds and Hammer Dewormer.

Derby hosts Cito Manansala and engineer Garcia said the cash prize at stake is P150,000 while entry fee is P5,500.

For inquiries on the submission of weights, interested parties may contact 816-6750, 843-1890 and 843-1746.

Also set at Pasay Cockpit is the one-day 5-cock derby on Feb. 1 with Tony Lasala as host. Entry fee is P20,000 while guaranteed prize is P400,000.

Meanwhile, the Happy Birthday entry of Gerry Maningas from San Miguel, Bulacan, emerged as solo champion in last week's Pasay Cockpit Cockers Association (PCCA) first 4-cock derby.

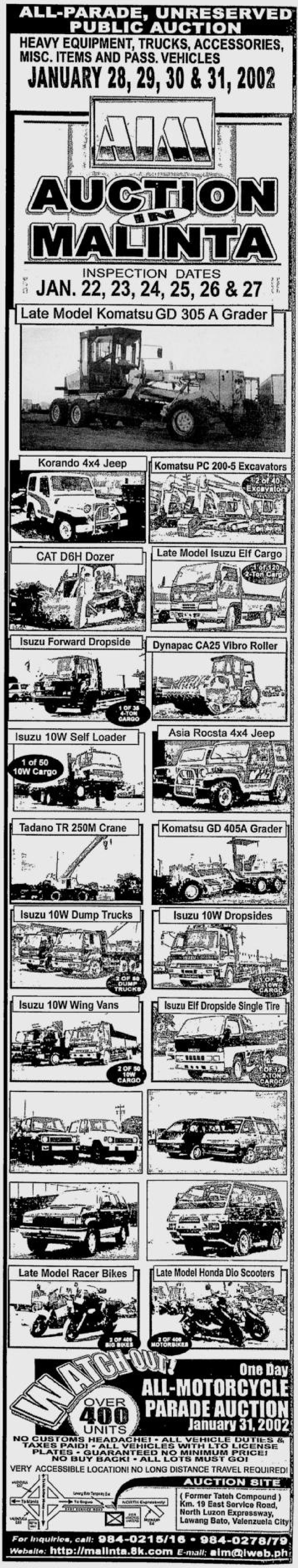


SHOOTING TILT

PMA Class '77 and the Philippine Practical Shooting Association (PPSA) are holding a Level Three Shootfest on Jan. 25 to 27 in Cabuyao, Laguna. Shown in photo (from left) are PMA Class '77 Silver Jubilee Chair Ned Goseco, Dojo Palines of the PPSA, and Jun Serapio of the Philippine National Police.

MILLENNIUM-FIBERFAB
BUY FACTORY DIRECT!!!
(Formerly Fiberfab, Inc.)
Telephone No. 437-2459
Mobile No. 0919-7410965
Workshop: P. Burgos, Friendly Village, Marikina City
Office Add: 84-A 19th Ave., Cubao Q.C.
E-mail : aero_fiberfab@yahoo.com
FULL DRESS-UP KITS Now Available for:
Adventure to Supersport•
Crosswind to XR-Crossroad•
Hilander to X-trm•
Isuzu Fuego 4x2 to 4x4 2002 looks•
Revo to Sports Runner•
Pajero Cladding to Intercooler/Galloper Design•
New ADVENTURE 2002 Super Sport
Also Available for Terrano, Pajero,Landcruiser, Tamaraw FX,
All types of Pick-ups, RAV4, CRV, Vitara, Imported SUV Cars:
•FENDER FLARES•SNORKLES
•ROOFRACKS / ROOFRAILS•BULLBARS
•SIDEBARS/STEP BOARDS•TIRE COVERS
•BEDLINERS / BED COVER•DECKSPOILER
•SIDE MIRROR PROTECTORS
New ISUZU XR-Crossroad
DEALERS ARE WELCOME
BUY of the MONTH
SNORKEL
for only
P 7,000.00
Our Other Services: Spray on Bedlining,Two-tone Painting, Rustproofing, Lifting, Wash-over Painting and Modification Services
WE DO DELIVER • ON-SITE INSTALLATION• HOME SERVICE

ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC.
AiA
C.B.U. TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
"NO-MINIMUM-PRICE" PUBLIC AUCTION
FEB. 8-10, 2002
14 DAYS TO GO
INSPECTION DATES : FEB. 3, 6, 7 (8 A.M. - 5 P.M.)
AUCTION STYLE : PARADE
NO "BUY-BACK"
ALL MUST GO
TAXES & DUTIES PAID
1 of 10 TRUCK CRANES
SUMITOMO HC78BS (35T)
NISSHA DH400 (40T) CRAWLER CRANE
1 of 20 WHEEL LOADERS
1 of 3 TCM 860
1 of 10 MOTOR GRADERS
CAT 120G
1 of 35 WING VANS
ISUZU CX 10W WING VAN
1 of 200 CARGO TRUCKS
4WD
ISUZU ELF
ISUZU
TOYOTA
NISSAN
TOYOTA COASTER
HINDI LAHAT NG AUCTION AY PARE-PAREHO
Para iwas problema dahil sa delayed na dokumento at palpak na conversion, sa AIA maki-auction.
Inquire and Register on-line via www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com
Lower Mau Camp, Argonaut Hi-way, Subic
Manila Tel: (02) 531-5751/ 531-5789/531-5061
Subic Tel: (047) 252-3333/252-7936/252-6841
Fax: (047) 252-6840 • Email: asiainc@svisp.com
Financing available thru: ORIX METRO Leasing & Financing Corp. • Tel. # (02) 858-8888
BIYAHE MO AY SULIT!!!


ALL-PARADE, UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
HEAVY EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS, ACCESSORIES, MISC. ITEMS AND PASS. VEHICLES
JANUARY 28, 29, 30 & 31, 2002
AIM
AUCTION IN MALINTA
INSPECTION DATES
JAN. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27
Late Model Komatsu GD 305 A Grader
Korando 4x4 Jeep
Komatsu PC 200-5 Excavators
2 of 40 Excavators
CAT D6H Dozer
Late Model Isuzu Elf Cargo
1 of 120 2-Ton Cargo
Isuzu Forward Dropside
1 OF 35 4-TON CARGO
Dynapac CA25 Vibro Roller
Isuzu 10W Self Loader
1 of 50 10W Cargo
Asia Rocsta 4x4 Jeep
Tadano TR 250M Crane
Komatsu GD 405A Grader
Isuzu 10W Dump Trucks
2 OF 50 DUMP TRUCKS
Isuzu 10W Dropsides
1 OF 50 10W CARGO
Isuzu 10W Wing Vans
2 OF 50 10W CARGO
Isuzu Elf Dropside Single Tire
1 OF 120 2-TON CARGO
Late Model Racer Bikes
2 OF 400 BIG BIKES
Late Model Honda Dio Scooters
2 OF 400 MOTORBIKES
WATCH-OUT!
OVER 400 UNITS
One Day ALL-MOTORCYCLE PARADE AUCTION
January 31, 2002
NO CUSTOMS HEADACHE! • ALL VEHICLE DUTIES & TAXES PAID! • ALL VEHICLES WITH LTO LICENSE PLATES • GUARANTEED NO MINIMUM PRICE! NO BUY BACK! • ALL LOTS MUST GO!
VERY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION! NO LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL REQUIRED!
AUCTION SITE
(Former Tatch Compound)
Km. 19 East Service Road,
North Luzon Expressway,
Lawang Bato, Valenzuela City
For inquiries, call: 984-0215/16 • 984-0278/79
Website: http://malinta.8k.com E-mail: aim@iweb.ph

SPORTS

Al S. Mendoza, Editor ■ Edwin M. Villanueva, Assistant Editor

Masbate enters semifinals

MASBATE Comprehensive High School subdued Licerio National High School of Rizal, 3-1, yesterday to secure a semifinal slot in the all-Luzon finals of the 18th Coke Go-for-Goal football tournament at the Philsports pitch in Pasig City. The Masbate booters came to life after Licerio took the initiative with a fourth-minute marker from Bailey Tolentino.

PBL THRILLERS

Shark, Kutitap force KO games

By Dennis U. Eroa

SPEEDY Warren Ybañez delivered the goods as defending champion Shark Energy Drink tripped ICTSI-La Salle, 63-54, forcing a playoff for a finals berth in the PBL Challenge Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

Playing for 33 minutes, the 5-foot-8 Ybañez kept the Shark's offensive machine going full blast, erupting for nine points and dishing out a game-high 11 assists on top of six rebounds.

Ybañez's solid performance rubbed in on teammates Chester Tolomia, defensive specialist Gerald Ortega, Rolly Basilides and Clarence Cole, who held the Archers at bay with their sporadic explosions.

Shark, gunning for its fourth straight finals appearance, meets ICTSI-La Salle anew tomorrow, with the winner advancing to the finals.

Kutitap also forged a knockout match with Welcoat after the Sparklers nipped the Paintmasters, 82-80, behind Rency Bajar's slashing drive.

After Welcoat's Ren Ren Ritualo missed the tying shot with seconds left, a near free-for-all erupted when Paintmaster Jojo Manalo fouled Cyrus Baguio during a rebound scramble.

The winners tomorrow will clash for the crown in a best-of-seven affair.

"Give credit to Warren. The knockout game, however, is going to be a brand-new ballgame. ICTSI is very much capable of bouncing back and we must not lower our guards," said Shark coach Leo Austria.

Austria fielded playmaker Michael Robinson sparingly, relying heavily on Ybañez, the son of a Cainta storeowner.

Robinson failed to join Shark's practices since he needed to be at the bedside of his son, who is recovering from a vehicular accident at the James Gordon Hospital in Olongapo City.

Ybañez tirelessly chased ICTSI pointguard Mike Cortez, who couldn't shake off Shark's double-teaming effort. The six-footer escaped with 14 points, but went scoreless in the fourth period as coach Franz Pumaren opted to field in veteran Jessie Cabanayan most of the time in that period.

Still, Cortez was the only Archer to hit double figures, scoring 14 points.

Cabanayan's triple and Bernzon Francos' undergoal stab helped the Archers come closer, 50-46, but it proved to be ICTSI's last stand.

Irvin Sotto, hero of Shark's playoff win over Ana Freezers last Tuesday, beat the buzzer with a three-point play, 53-46, at the end of the third period.

James Yap's decision to see action in Cebu's Sinulog Basketball Cup backfired as he played listlessly and finished with only two points for ICTSI-La Salle. Dominic Uy, the league's second best rebounder, had one, while Rommel Daep contributed three.

Outrebounded, 47-41, Shark committed fewer turnovers, 16-21.

"The execution of our offense has improved a lot," Austria said.

SCORES:

SHARK 63—Tolomia 17, Ybañez 9, Sotto 9, Ortega 8, Basilides 7, Cole 7, Castro 6, Robinson 0, Junio 0.

ICTSI-LA SALLE 54—Cortez 14, Wilson 8, Cabanayan 6, Franco 6, Castro 6, Omolon 5, Daep 3, Sta. Maria 2, Yap 2, Ramos 2, Manalo 0, Uy 0.

Quarters: 23-10, 41-32, 53-46, 63-54.

Yancy doubtful starter

GAMES TODAY (Rizal Memorial)
1 p.m. PUP vs DLSU-M (women's)
2:30 p.m. Olivarez vs St. Francis (juniors)
4 p.m. St. Francis vs Lyceum (men's)

YANCY de Ocampo's appearance today is everybody's guess as defending champion St. Francis of Assisi flaunts its height anew against a smaller but quicker Lyceum five at the start of their National Capital Region Athletic Association (NCRAA) best-of-three final for the men's basketball crown at the Rizal Memorial Basketball Stadium.

CHESTER Tolomia (with ball) of Shark eluding Nelbert Omolon (21) and Mike Cortez of ICTSI-La Salle as game hero Warren Ybañez looks on. Shark won, 63-54, to forge the knockout match.

ERNIE SARMIENTO

Talk N Text trades Codiñera for Crisano

TALK N TEXT, trying to loosen up its tight salary cap, dealt power forward Jerry Codiñera to newcomer Federal Express in exchange for the 6-foot-7 Fil-American Alex Crisano.

The one-on-one trade had FedEx honoring the rest of Codiñera's live two-year contract worth at least P9 million while the Phone Pals took responsibility of Crisano's P3-million one-year pact.

"This is a new challenge for me. With the opportunity given by FedEx in spite of my age, it will provide a different kind of motivation on my part," said the 35-year-old Codiñera.

"I feel that I've done my job at Mobiline. No hard feelings, it's time to move on," added the 15-year PBA veteran.

Simultaneously, the Phone Pals snatched shooter Elmer Lago, who was released by the Express recently to the free-agent market. *June Navarro*

Globe HANDYPHONE

Winning is TXTciting!

Here are last week's winners:

	JANUARY 15, 2002	JANUARY 16, 2002	JANUARY 17, 2002	JANUARY 18, 2002	JANUARY 19, 2002	JANUARY 20, 2002
10:00AM	**RICHARD TIERRA Binalonan, Pangasinan Nokia 8850**	BERNARD CUYCO Baliwag, Bulacan ₱10,000	JOEY ADRANEDA Cubao, Quezon City ₱10,000	**MARIFE REVIL Antipolo, Rizal Nokia 8850**	MA. GRACIA PARABULES Catarman, Samar Nokia 6210	**RUTH ANNE YAP Quezon City Nokia 8850**
11:00AM	JOJO EBALOBO Quezon City ₱10,000	LUCELYN ONG Cainta, Rizal ₱10,000	FREDERICK BUGIA Quezon City Nokia 8250	BERNARD CUYCO Bulacan ₱10,000	LOWELL NOMBRES Tondo, Manila ₱10,000	MA. TERESA RAMIREZ Tuguegarao City ₱10,000
12:00NN	LEA SANTIAGO Bulacan ₱10,000	LORNA TIONGSON Cubao, Quezon City Nokia 8310	**ROBERTO GATPAYAT Pateros, Metro Manila ₱50,000**	**BENJAMIN TIONGSON Cubao, Quezon City ₱100,000**	GENALYN GALITA Meycauayan, Bulacan Nokia 8250	LARA BATINGA Sta. Cruz, Manila Nokia 6210
1:00PM	CRISTETO LONGAKIT Digos City Nokia 6210	MARLENE LOPEZ Dasmariñas, Cavite Nokia 6210	GABRIELA GAVINA La Union ₱10,000	SEBASTIAN MANABAT Pampanga Nokia 8310	EVELINA CONCEPCION Guiguinto, Bulacan Nokia 8310	**GEORGE SALIENTE Quezon City ₱50,000**
2:00PM	PORTIA IMELDA CUESTA Bani, Pangasinan ₱20,000	DORIES DIMAANO Taal, Batangas ₱20,000	GREGORIA SY Tondo, Manila Nokia 6210	MIGUEL ALAPAN Cainta, Rizal Nokia 6210	CARLOS MENDOZA Marikina City ₱10,000	NELINDA SALAS Jaro, Iloilo Nokia 8250
3:00PM	MA. RIZA BANTA Ortigas, Pasig City Nokia 6210	**MA. NIMFA DABU Angeles City Nokia 9210**	MARY ANN GRACE HILARIO Quezon City Nokia 8250	GLORIA VILLAGANES Tondo, Manila ₱10,000	ALBERTO LAPIZ General Santos City Nokia 6210	ELIZABETH DAVID Novaliches, Quezon City ₱10,000
4:00PM	ROMEO DAGANGON Manila Nokia 8310	BERNARDINO GAMAYO, Jr. Makati City Nokia 6210	LALLY BUENDIA Las Piñas City Nokia 6210	EUGENIA DUERO Parañaque Nokia 6210	HENEDINA PARAISO Loyola Heights, Quezon City ₱20,000	MARYFE MOSELEY Pasig City Nokia 6210

You can win TXTciting prizes, too! Just look for the TXTciting word of the day in the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippine STAR and myGlobe or send TXTCITING to 2255. Keep texting!

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
THE PHILIPPINE STAR
myGlobe mobile e-services NO LIMITS

To claim your prize, please present the winning SIM Card and a valid ID. See flyers or call the Globe Telecom Hotline at 7301000 or 211 from your Globe Handyphone for details.

LAGI KAMING HANDA!

The state-of-the-art electronic repair shop is now open to serve you!

We're 54 Branches and still growing!

Michael V.

pag may sira...

FIX IT
ELECTRONICS REPAIR CENTER, INC.

WE REPAIR AND UPGRADE!

For inquiries, call:
- 3732410
- 3734640
- 3722636

AG FRANCHISE GROUP
WE BUILD BUSINESSES.

Timog, Karuhatan, Makati, Rosario, Cubao, Whiteplains, North Avenue, SFDM, Malinta, Mayon, Fairview, Binondo, Tandang Sora, Tondo, Kamias, Mindanao Ave., Bicutan, Pasig Bayan, B.F. Sucat, Pateros, Shaw, San Andres, J.P. Rizal, Ruston's, Diliman, Alabang, Boni Ave., Marikina, Olongapo Olongapo2, Tanauan, Antipolo, Antipolo2, Lipa, Angeles, Legaspi, MeyCauayan, Plaridel, Cabanatuan, san Juan, Baguio, Pangasinan, Cebu, Cebu2, Tacloban, Bacolod, Butuan, Zamboanga, Zamboanga2, Davao, CDO, Cotabato, Iligan, Gen. Santos

- Skyway 'working wonders' for users, say operators /A26
- Witness fails to pin down Baron associate /A26

METRO

Louie C. Camino, Editor

- Pasay officials face graft charges /A26
- Firemen throw cold water on patronage politics /A26

Bridge falls down; 1 dead, many hurt

Accident happens on last day of feast of town's patron saint

By Nelson F. Flores

A SIX-YEAR-OLD girl drowned while many other people were hurt when a wooden bridge in Tanay, Rizal collapsed from the weight of hundreds of people watching a boat race in the Wawa River yesterday morning.

Joan Crisostomo, of Barangay Wawa, Tanay, fell head first in the murky Wawa River and drowned, police said.

PO1 Fermin Jesuitas, Tanay municipal police investigator, said hundreds of people were on the wooden bridge about 11 a.m. yesterday to watch the boat race, the highlight of the three-day celebration in honor of San Ildefonso, the town's patron saint.

Jesuitas said the weight of hundreds of onlookers became too much to bear for the bridge's cables. When the cables snapped, scores of people fell in the river.

Except for Crisostomo, those who fell managed to swim to safety or were rescued by the passing boats, Jesuitas said.

"But we are still scouring the river banks all the way to Morong town to determine if there are more casualties," Jesuitas said.

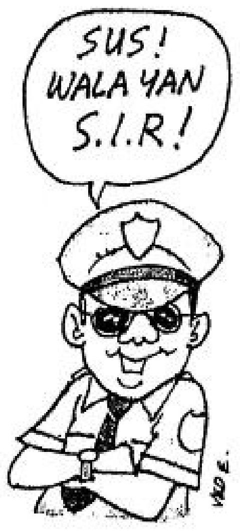
He added other policemen are also making the rounds of different hospitals in Rizal to find out if there are other casualties.

The wooden bridge was built two years ago by the municipal government to connect Barangays Wawa and Aldea, where the Tanay Public Market is located. The bridge measured 35 meters long and 20 ft. high.

Most cops live 'clean lives'—WPD

By Philip C. Tubeza

MOST policemen from the Western Police District live clean lives, according to Senior Insp. Gerry Agunod, spokesperson for the WPD.


SUS! WALA YAN S.I.R!
VIO E.

The WPD yesterday downplayed the results of the Service Induction and Reorientation (SIR) program, which includes drug and psychological tests, that reportedly showed the dismal and "shocking" performance of officers and men.

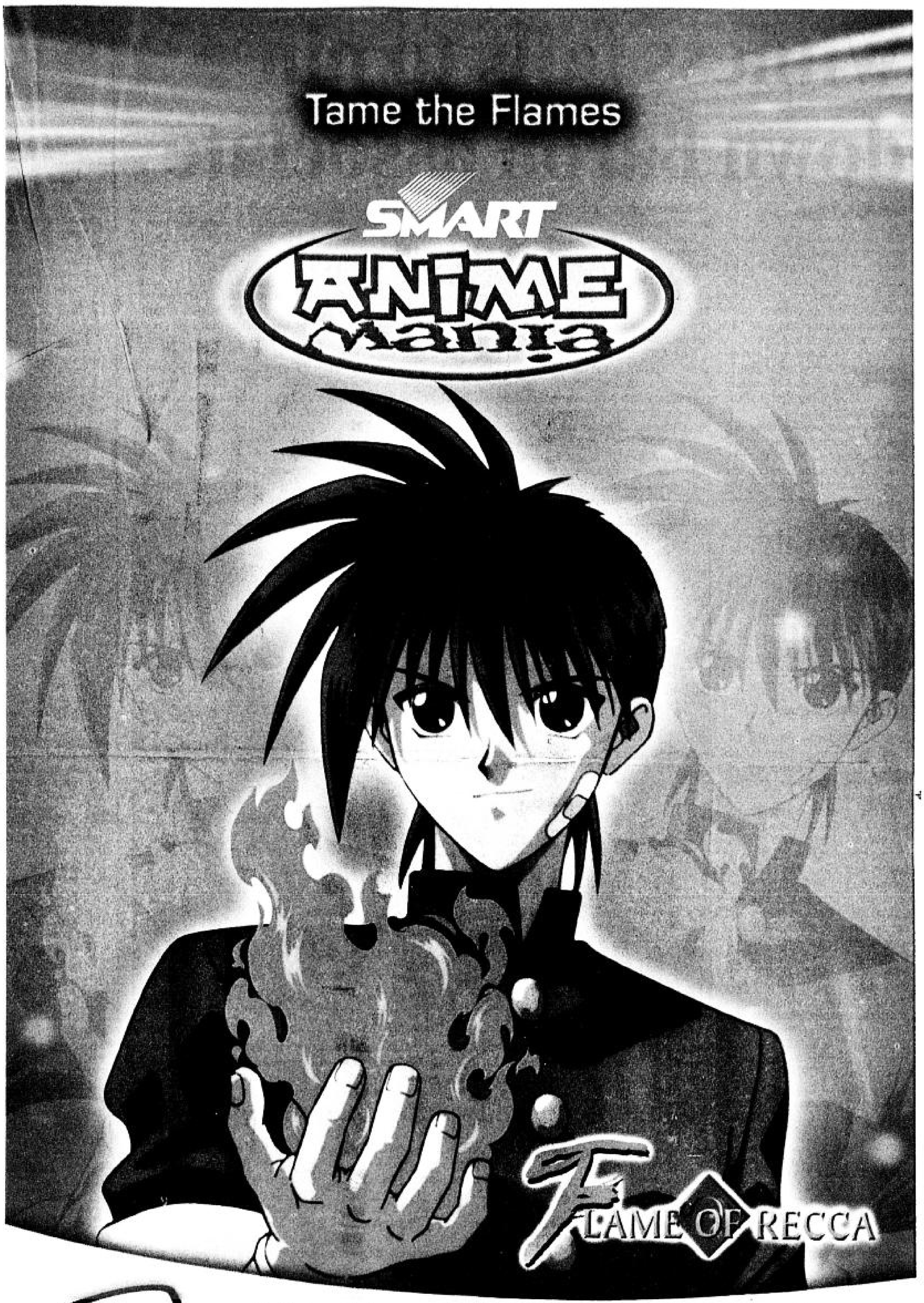
Agunod said no drug tests had been conducted on WPD members because the WPD was still looking for funding. He said he was also not aware that his colleagues took formal psychological exams under the SIR program.

MOST COPS/A26

WAZZZZUP? ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

8th day ST. FRANCIS SQ. ORTIGAS CTR	WISEGUYS DIVAS	☎634.7696/98
BUMA 5595 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI	SHADOW COOL CHANGE	☎896.1939
Café OVERDRIVE	L O C	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎8185555
Cowboy Grill	MR ROXY FAT 16	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎801-7644
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C.	STREETLIFE SERSIDE/ZEST	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎936-9557
Friends @ the square ST. FRANCIS SQ. ORTIGAS CENTER	KAKTOOZ	☎635.0279
TIA MARIA'S	D' BUMP E - 7	WISEGUYS JAN 30 ☎890-4735
OUTSIDE METRO MANILA		
Cowboy Grill BINAN, LAGUNA	POWER ON MUSIC CIRCUIT	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ (049) 511.7268
PartyPlace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	N O X CJ & BLUE	☎(045)9613360
THE SUMMIT	ELEMENTS JAN 16-31 W/LIVE ENTERTAINMENT MONDAYS THRU SATURDAYS	HAPPY HOUR 6-9 PM ☎(082)-2258888

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 912-8983



Get all fired up with anime power with Smart's Anime Mania! Control the power of the elements in your celfone screens with exclusive anime logos, picture messages, screensavers and ringtones. Tame the flames through a text-based game! You can even build on the fun by inviting friends to be part of the anime circle!

To join, key in **JOIN ANIME** and send to **235**. (Once a member you can download exclusive anime logos, pics and ringtones.)
To invite a friend, key in **INVITE** <invitee's Smart celfone number> and send to **235**. (You can invite up to 3 friends per message.)
To play the game, key in **PLAY ANIME** and send to **235**.

fuuko <logo/group graphic>
recca <picture message/screensavers>
frkoganei <logo/group graphic>
frlogo <picture message/screensavers>
frrecca <logo/group graphic>

To Get Flame of Recca...	Key in...
Logo List of Keywords	LOGO FR and send to 235
Logos*	LOGO <keyword> and send to 235
Group Graphics List of Keywords	GROUP FR and send to 235
Group Graphics*	GROUP <keyword> and send to 235
Picture Messages List of Keywords	PIC FR and send to 235
Picture Messages*	PIC <keyword> and send to 235
Screen Savers List of Keywords	SAVER FR and send to 235
Screen Savers*	SAVER <keyword> and send to 235
Help on the Commands	HELP and send to 235

To Download Ringtones...
Key in TONE <keyword> and send to 235.
Choose from:
FRTONE1
FRTONE2
FRTONE3
FRTONE4

*Available on selected Nokia handsets only

SMART Simply Amazing!

Powered by Information Gateway

© Nobuyuki Anzai / Shogakukan, Fuji TV, Studio Pierrot / Telesuccess Productions

All information requests sent will be charged ₱2.50 each. Downloading of logos, picture messages, group graphics and ringtones will be charged ₱12.00 each.

GRAND SALE
January 15 - 31, 2002

MALDITA

SM - North EDSA, Megamall, Sucat, Fairview, Southmall level 1 & 3, Manila /
Robinsons - Galleria, Ermita, Pasig, Novaliches, Imus / Festival, Alabang /
Grand Pavilion Mall, Laguna and The Outlet Yard

Up to 50% OFF*
* on selected items only

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0044, series of 2002

Skyway 'working wonders' for users, say operators

By Christian V. Esguerra

AMID widespread protests against the toll increase, the builders of Skyway yesterday justified the new rates and insisted the elevated road system "has worked wonders" for the public.

Contrary to allegations by disgruntled motorists, the Skyway has cut travel time from Alabang to Magallanes from three hours to less than an hour, according to Anna Gamboa of the corporate communications department of Citra Metro Manila Tollway Corp. (CMMTC).

"It has worked wonders for all of us," she told the Inquirer. "(The critics) should realize this."

Gamboa claimed the Skyway increased road capacity by 100 percent, resulting in the decongestion of traffic on the South Luzon Expressway.

The latest round of toll increase, Gamboa pointed out, will enable CMMTC to provide more efficient services to motorists.

But Laguna residents who regularly use the Skyway complained there was no reduction in travel time, as CMMTC claimed.

This, among other allegations, was the basis of a P2.8-million damage suit the residents filed against CMMTC.

Gamboa said CMMTC has already submitted its formal reply to the complaint.

She said the latest Skyway toll increase will enable its operators to complete a three-stage project, connecting the present road system to the North Luzon Expressway.

The new rates are still in effect in the Skyway system even after President Macapagal-Arroyo suspended the collection of increased fees on the South and North Luzon expressways.

But the Philippine National Construction Corp. clarified that only the Balintawak to Sta. Ines portion of the North Expressway and the Alabang to Calamba stretch of the South Expressway are covered by the suspension.

The PNCC operates both expressways.

Witness fails to pin down Baron associate

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation released an associate of slain Army Lt. Baron Cervantes who resembled the soldier's killer—according to a police sketch—after the witness failed to positively identify him, an NBI source said yesterday.

"While his facial features resembled the person in the sketch, (the associate) was taller and bulkier than the gunman," the source said.

The suspect was included in a police lineup but was not immediately identified by the witness. The witness later noticed the suspect's resemblance to the killer but dismissed him because he had a bigger body frame, the source said.

The man worked with Cervantes during the last elections, the source said.

"We even found out that Cervantes told him to introduce himself as a military man during their dealings with other people," the source said.

The NBI also invited eight people, including the ambulance driver who brought Cervantes to the hospital, for questioning, but they could not give any new information about the murder.

NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco also said "ideological differences" could have led to the murder of the self-appointed spokesperson of the Young Officers Union (YOU). But he denied that the Left was involved in the killing and he refused to say if YOU was behind the murder.

"It was politics within the movement (but) Baron Cervantes had many affiliations so we're still checking this," he added.

Cervantes was killed on New Year's Eve while apparently waiting for someone near the 7-eleven convenience store at the corner of Times Street and the Alabang-Zapote Road in Las Piñas.

Hours before he was killed, Cervantes went to the house of Council of Philippine Affairs (CPA) chief Pastor Boy Saycon and delivered an intelligence report detailing who were present at a clandestine meeting held at the Puerto Azul resort in Cavite.

The meeting, allegedly attended by members of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa and YOU, was said to be intended for hatching a destabilization plot against the Macapagal-Arroyo administration.

Former Land Transportation Office chief Edgardo Abenina was also linked to the killing after it was discovered that Cervantes had documents allegedly detailing the former general's anomalies in the agency.

Abenina has vehemently denied the accusations.

Overweight PSC boss goes for a world record

BARE EYE

Recab Trinidad

ERIC Buhain could feel every happy bit like a great movie waiting to be reshown. Or an epic waiting to be retold.

Blame all the excitement on the giddiness that has predictably followed Mr. Buhain's appointment as the new (youngest ever) head of the Philippine Sports Commission.

So what if he happens to be the son-in-law of presidential peace process adviser Eduardo Ermita, an Edsa Dos major player?

News of this relationship had caused some nasty eyebrows to be raised, mainly among the displeased parents of former national swimmers whom Buhain had allegedly maltreated and displeased.

This early, it's clear the new PSC big boss won't be lacking in critics and enemies.

Anyway, the story goes that Buhain was the most surprised fellow after he heard of his appointment.

That's easy to believe.

In the first place, who would have thought Butch Tuason would finally offer to step down as PSC chieftain?

***

There's boiling excitement. Expectations are great.

Buhain's sparkling sports and academic credentials could indeed be of great help: a total of 15 gold medals in the SEA Games, TOYM awardee in 1991, member US NCAA All America team, back-to-back athlete of the year awardee, cum laude with a degree in BS Finance from La Salle Philadelphia.

You know what? The new PSC chief, at first glance, could even appear over-qualified for the post.

A tested champion, Buhain, 32, could indeed be a win-win bet.

But that was 11 years and many lean pounds ago.

One look at Buhain would bare that it's a heavier, brand-new fellow they have chosen to charter the fortune of Philippine sports.

It's no longer a lean, young fish they have sent to swim in what has sadly become an altogether different tank: the murky, muddled, politics-plagued, controversy-rocked world of national sports.

***

Anyhow, it's comforting enough to know that Buhain himself knows he cannot rest on his laurels. And that associations and affiliations with Secretary This or General That would not be of help in the end.

Buhain was quick to confirm he was thrilled and honored by his appointment.

"But it will be very tough," he was quoted as predicting.

The way he sounded, Buhain, said to be the President's personal choice, could indeed be set for the biggest splash of his life.

How to do it?

Buhain did not have to be told. He has already scheduled a sit-in with outgoing PSC chair Butch Tuason.

He wanted to be promptly assessed on the state of national sports affairs.

Not only that. Buhain, before he could settle in his post, assured athletes that he "would not only be their chairman but also a co-athlete. Or an elder brother, a *kuya*, mainly to the small ones.

He has also vowed to unify feuding factions of athletes and officials.

Now hold your breath. To top it all, he has gone out to assure all athletes, students and practitioners in sports they would be able to compete in the highest level under him.

***

Wow! Our man may be hearing more than his healthy share of political speeches (his wife is Aileen Ermita, congresswoman from Batangas).

But that last shot was really a big, bold one. A target that all those before him had tried to hit but miserably missed.

You may not have realized it, but with that last hefty vow, Buhain could have unwittingly aimed for a world record.

But who was to tell him what to do first?

Have constant rapport with athletes, Butch Tuason advised his successor as the aggrieved cousin of the First Gentleman prepared to pack up his things.

Look, after he survived controversies, debacles, crippling criticisms, it had started to appear that Tuason could no longer be plucked from his lucrative perch even by a battalion of GMA-approved Green Berets.

With his surprise move, all we could do is offer a hand to Mr. Tuason.

Citizen Butch deserves our respect and admiration.

In offering to be banished from his lofty post to save the First Family from further shame and criticism, Tuason had also bared one noble stuff.

The man has *delicadeza*. He cares for what's truly honorable.

This was one trait Tuason had obviously failed to lend two of his commissioners, a lovely pair that has decided to stay where they are no longer needed.

Eric Buhain may not be saying it, but he needs a new, solid team in the PSC.

That's if he has to succeed in what could be an epic world-record swim.

Pasay City officials face graft charges

By Christian V. Esguerra

A RANKING Pasay City official, four city hall employees, and a property administrator will be arraigned this morning for graft charges.

Pasay revenue collection officer Conrado Mendoza and the city hall employees were accused of manipulating city hall records to reduce a realty firm's land tax by more than P3 million.

To be arraigned in the Regional Trial Court Branch 112 are Mendoza, Consuelo Villegas, Ruby Uriarte, Teresita Lauzon, Herminia Narvaez, and property administrator Angel Tolentino of New Homes Realty Corp.

The Ombudsman slapped the graft charges on Mendoza and the employees for allegedly reducing the assessed value of New Homes' commercial land from P64 million to P16 million.

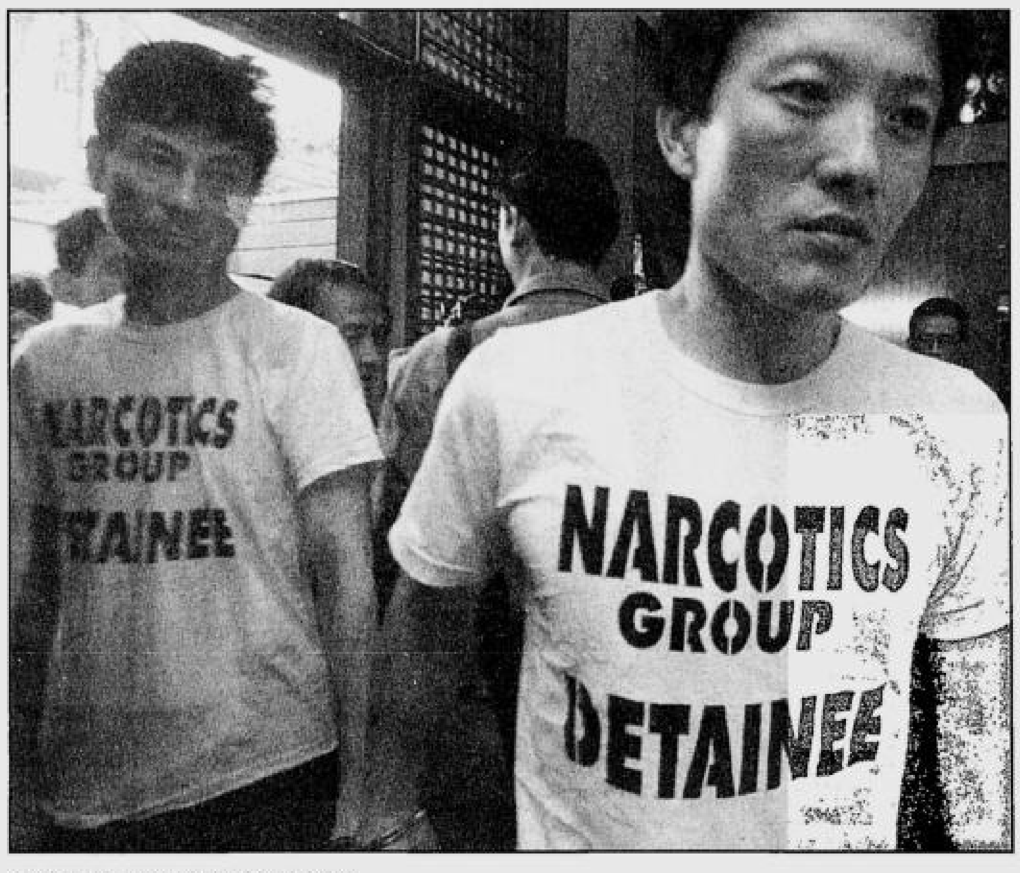
This reduced the commercial land's real property obligation for 1997 to 1998 from P4,617,600 to P1,135,200, court records showed.

The property is located between Cuneta Avenue and Roxas Boulevard.

Despite the "steep assessed value decline," Mendoza and his men allegedly failed to notify the city treasurer's office about it or call for a re-assessment.

This caused "undue injury to the government" and gave "unwarranted benefits" to New Homes, according to Ombudsman prosecutor Roland Galvan.

The respondents denied the allegations in their counter-affidavits.



SHABU 'TECHNICIANS' JOAN BONDOC

Two of the seven Chinese arrested in last Friday's raid on a shabu laboratory in San Juan are handcuffed to each other as they are presented to media. The seven, all from China, were presented by police in a news conference in the house where the shabu-making implements were found.

Firemen throw cold water on 'patronage politics'

By Jerome Aning

A NATIONWIDE association of fire fighters yesterday hit what it called the "intrusion of patronage politics" in crucial appointments at the Bureau of Fire Protection.

The United Fire Fighters of the Philippines, which is based in Manila, revealed that a fire official who has "close ties with the higher-ups" is about to be appointed regional fire marshal in the National Capital Region, even if he is "bereft of the necessary qualifications and field exposure."

"This is a direct invitation to catastrophe," UFFP spokesperson Alvin Estrada said.

But Estrada refused to identify the would-be appointee.

He also claimed that "suppliers from a dubious agency, who have powerful connections, have been lording it over the promotions and appointments in the BFP for a very long time."

The organization also deplored the assignment of a growing number of firemen from "far-flung provinces" to NCR, while many fire officers living in Metro Manila and who have actual field experience in the region are posted to distant provinces.

"Valuable experience gained by these NCR officers are wasted on areas where fire rarely occurs," Estrada said.

The spokesperson cited a recent incident when an officer from a faraway province received a radio alert that a fire was raging in New Manila, Quezon City.

"The over-zealous officer, out of ignorance of the NCR geography, ordered the fire trucks in Manila to respond to the alarm, not knowing that the fire is actually in Quezon City," Estrada said.

"In fire fighting, familiarity with the terrain is a must for any officer," he explained. "Response time in an operation is critical, especially in our situation where fire trucks and fire stations are not proportionate to land area and population density."

DOGGED WATCH

Bomb-sniffing dogs, including the two Belgian Malinois above, have become a normal sight at LRT stations since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, according to Light Rail Transit Authority administrator Teddy Cruz. Seven dogs and their handlers start working at 6 a.m. every day, says Cruz.

Power theft raps vs hotel owners dropped

By Agnes E. Donato

A QUEZON CITY prosecutor has ordered the dismissal of the electricity pilferage charges against the owners of the Manor Hotel, where a 2001 fire killed scores.

The prosecutor gave the order after the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) reached a compromise agreement with the Wil-Vic Construction and Development Corp. and decided to withdraw its complaint against the firm.

In his motion, the counsel of Meralco asked the withdrawal of the complaint saying the parties "need more time to trace their differences."

But in the compromise agreement signed by both parties on Jan. 8, it was learned that the defendants agreed to pay Meralco's total recomputed claims against Wil-Vic Corp., which amounted to about P2.7 million.

The hotel owners also agreed to give an initial payment of P500,000 upon signing of the compromise. The balance would be paid in installment for 35 months.

Meralco undertook to restore the electric service for the commercial establishments owned by Wil-Vic Corp. on Kamias Road in Quezon City as soon as the owners have complied with the legal and other requirements.

The charges of violation of the Anti-Pilferage Law were filed against William and Rebecca Genato and other officers of Wil-Vic Corp. last Oct. 8 after Meralco inspectors found permanent jumper wires leading to Manor Hotel and other commercial establishments owned by Wil-Vic.

Most ...

(From page A25)

"And if we are going to conduct drug tests, these will be unannounced," he said. "Users will not take drugs if they are given any notice."

Besides conducting drug and psychological tests on policemen, the SIR program also aims to familiarize members of the WPD-especially those assigned in Manila for the first time-with the city's geography, existing ordinances and urban development projects.

The program started last October. The 3,100 members of the WPD were grouped in batches of 40. Ten batches at a time took the 64-hour syllabus, which is equivalent to three months.

AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24-HOR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

A Digital Sound

GLORIETTA 1
formerly QUAD

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER — In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 THE LORD OF THE RINGS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
4 AMERICAN ADOBO — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GLORIETA 4

1 THE OTHERS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2 AMERICAN ADOBO — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN THX — In DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 CORKY ROMANO — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 ZOOLANDER — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 OCEAN'S ELEVEN — In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 BEHIND ENEMY LINES — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

Art Film

GREENBELT

1 MOV- THE DIGITAL MOVIE FEST — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN — In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3 THE OTHERS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
4 WEEKEND W/ POPS JAN. 25 & 26 9:00 PM Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN THX — In DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2 THE OTHERS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 AMERICAN ADOBO — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 CORKY ROMANO — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 BEHIND ENEMY LINES — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDD) THE OTHERS
2 (SDDS) ZOOLANDER
3 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 GOLD (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 GOLD (DOLBY) CORKY ROMANO
6 GOLD (SDDS) LORD OF THE RINGS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
9 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
10 AMERICAN ADOBO

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1 RESERVE
2 BUKO PANDAN
3 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 BUKO PANDAN

METROPOLIS star
Tel. 850 4285

1 CORKY ROMANO
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
4 BUKO PANDAN
5 THE OTHERS
6 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7 RESERVE
8 RESERVE

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
(Makati City) Tel. 7512010 to 13

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 BURLESK KING
2 HUBOG

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515

1
2 BUKO PANDAN
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1 BUKO PANDAN
A GIRL FEVER

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 BUKO PANDAN
4 GIRL FEVER

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8509

1 (DOLBY) MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 RESERVE
3 RESERVE
4 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
5 CORKY ROMANO
6 AMERICAN ADOBO
7 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8 (SDDS) THE OTHERS
9 (DOLBY) BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
4 (SDDS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 HUBOG
6 (DOLBY) LORD OF THE RINGS
7 (DTS) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8 BUKO PANDAN
9 BURLESK KING

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 AMERICAN ADOBO
4 CORKY ROMANO
5 (SDDS) THE OTHERS
6 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
7 (DOLBY) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8 BURLESK KING

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 CORKY ROMANO
3 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 AMERICAN ADOBO
5 (SDDS) BEHIND ENEMY LINES

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson MEN'S
Lords TUKSO
Jennet RESERVE

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 THE OTHERS

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
5 THE OTHERS

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 CORKY ROMANO
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 BUKO PANDAN

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY) RESERVE
2 RESERVE

Berma
tel 879.2029

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1 AMERICAN ADOBO
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 (DTS) AMERICAN ADOBO
3 (DOLBY) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1 AMERICAN ADOBO
2 (DOLBY) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 WALANG IWANAN
2 GLADIATOR
3 SOON TO OPEN
4 SOON TO OPEN

Cinema 2000 MovieTown
TEL. (045) 9821729 (Tarlac)

1 BURLESK KING
2 ON THE LINE
3 (DOLBY) ZOOLANDER
4 (DTS) ON THE LINE

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS) MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 BUKO PANDAN
3 MY WIFE LOVER
4 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 (DTS) BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 BUKO PANDAN
5 AMERICAN ADOBO

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 BUKO PANDAN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249-2558

1 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 BUKO PANDAN

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0511

1 BURLESK KING
2 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 BUKO PANDAN

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 LORD OF THE RINGS

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS) MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
2 (DTS) OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1 BUKO PANDAN
2 MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
3 BURLESK KING

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 BURLESK KING
2 ZOOLANDER
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY) LORD OF THE RINGS
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 (DTS) MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

CMG INTERNATIONAL

For reservations, call: 751-2010 to 13

PREMIERE CINEMA THX NOW SHOWING

GEORGE CLOONEY MATT DAMON ANDY GARCIA BRAD PITT JULIA ROBERTS

OCEAN'S ELEVEN

3 CASINOS. 11 GUYS. 150 MILLION BUCKS. READY TO WIN BIG?

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas

NOW SHOWING

e-mail : hto@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA
632-0115-16 / 633-7641 loc. 379

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 LORD OF THE RING
4 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5 MAHAL KITA...
6 THE OTHERS
7 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8 AMERICAN ADOBO
9 CORKY ROMANO
10 ZOOLANDER

ERMITA
536-7609 TO 12

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 LORD OF THE RINGS
3 MAHAL KITA...
4 THE OTHERS
5 AMERICAN ADOBO
6 CORKY ROMANO
7 BEHIND ENEMY LINES

METRO EAST
632-0115-16 / 633-7641

1 AMERICAN ADOBO
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 LORD OF THE RINGS
5 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
6 MAHAL KITA...
7 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8 ZOOLANDER

NOVALICHES
935-3229 to 31

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 LORD OF THE RINGS
5 MAHAL KITA...
6 MAHAL KITA...
7 ZOOLANDER
8 AMERICAN ADOBO

IMUS
(046) 471-0186

1 LORD OF THE RINGS
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 MAHAL KITA...
4 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5 AMERICAN ADOBO
6 THE OTHERS

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453 / 0458

1 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 GLASS HOUSE
4 GIRL FEVER
5 ON THE LINE
6 SPY GAME

ILOILO
(033) 330-0077 / 0079

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 SPY GAME
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 AMERICAN ADOBO
5 EARTHQUAKE
6 WALANG IWANAN

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	AMERICAN ADOBO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	CORKY ROMANO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	THE OTHERS
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	H'WAG KANG KIKIBO / ORIGINAL SIN
ODEON	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
ODEON-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
ROBEN	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	THE HOLE / EARTHQUAKE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	BUKO PANDAN
REMAR	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
REMAR-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	MAHAL KITA: FINAL ANSWER
B	
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CORKY ROMANO
CINEMA-2	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BAGONG BUWAN
CINEMA-2	BUKO PANDAN
CINEMA-3	AMERICAN ADOBO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BURLESK KING
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-6	HUBOG
CINEMA-7	YAMASHITA
CINEMA-8	WALANG IWANAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	ZOOLANDER
CINEMA-12	LORD OF THE RINGS
CINEMA-14	SPY GAME
CINEMA-15	AMERICAN ADOBO
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	ZOOLANDER
CINEMA-2	CORKY ROMANO
CINEMA-3	AMERICAN ADOBO
CINEMA-4	BEHIND ENEMY LINES
CINEMA-5	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
CINEMA-6	OCEAN'S ELEVEN
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

SM CINEMA

SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173069

1 THE OTHERS
2 CORKY ROMANO
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 AMERICAN ADOBO
5 LORD OF THE RINGS
6 MAHAL KITA . . .
7 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
8 BURLESK KING

SM CENTERPOINT
7140522 -7161416

1 MAHAL KITA . . .
2 LORD OF THE RINGS
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 CORKY ROMANO
5 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6 BURLESK KING
7 THE OTHERS
8 SPY GAME
9 AMERICAN ADOBO
10 ZOOLANDER

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1 MAHAL KITA . . .
2 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 ZOOLANDER
4 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 THE OTHERS
6 MAHAL KITA . . .
7 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
8 LORD OF THE RINGS
9 AMERICAN ADOBO
10 CORKY ROMANO
11 BURLESK KING
12 BUKO PANDAN

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1 THE OTHERS
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 ZOOLANDER
4 LORD OF THE RINGS
5 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7 ON THE LINE
8 BURLESK KING
9 MAHAL KITA . . .
10 CORKY ROMANO
11 GLASS HOUSE
12 AMERICAN ADOBO

SM MEGAMALL
6331801 • 6320401

1 GLASS HOUSE
2 THE OTHERS
3 LORD OF THE RINGS
4 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
5 CORKY ROMANO
6 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
7 BURLESK KING
8 ZOOLANDER
9 AMERICAN ADOBO
10 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
11 MAHAL KITA . . .
12 SPY GAME

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1 THE OTHERS
2 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
3 MAHAL KITA . . .
4 ZOOLANDER
5 AMERICAN ADOBO
6 CORKY ROMANO
7 LORD OF THE RINGS
8 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
9 BURLESK KING
10 SPY GAME
11 BUKO PANDAN
12 OCEAN'S ELEVEN

SM SOUTHMALL
8008098 • 8006702

1 THE OTHERS
2 LORD OF THE RINGS
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 CORKY ROMANO
5 BURLESK KING
6 BUKO PANDAN
7 MAHAL KITA . . .
8 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
9 ZOOLANDER
10 AMERICAN ADOBO

SM CITY CEBU
2313076

1 LORD OF THE RINGS
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 GLASS HOUSE
4 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5 BURLESK KING
6 AMERICAN ADOBO
7 BATANG LANSANGAN
8 LORD OF THE RINGS

SM CITY ILOILO
3200423

1 BRO
2 CLOSED
3 SPY GAME
4 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
5 EARTHQUAKE
6 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
7 CLOSED
8 WALANG IWANAN

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7126015

1 LORD OF THE RINGS
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 ZOOLANDER
4 AMERICAN ADOBO
5 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
6 MAHAL KITA . . .

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8204075

1 AMERICAN ADOBO
2 ZOOLANDER
3 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
4 MAHAL KITA . . .

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
8820905

1 AMERICAN ADOBO
2 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 MAHAL KITA . . .

SM CITY TUTUBAN
2514302

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 AMERICAN ADOBO
3 MAHAL KITA . . .
4 BURLESK KING

SM CITY DAVAO
2974004

1 OCEAN'S ELEVEN
2 BURLESK KING
3 BEHIND ENEMY LINES
4 WALANG IWANAN
5 AMERICAN AOBO
6 GLASS HOUSE

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM

18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

1
2

SOON TO OPEN!
2 NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART VISION & SOUND

6389781-85

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

Comebacks and initial gambits

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

AS the entertainment world tries to keep its audience interested this year, it's coming up with a number of relatively fresh attractions, among them the comeback bids of some talented veterans, and the initial gambits of a number of new talents.

Topping the list of comeback stars this year are **Jao Mapa** and **Mark Anthony Fernandez**. Jao was away for around two years, concentrating on his studies and getting his priorities straight. But he's decided that he loves acting too much to give it up for good, so he's back on the TV-film scene.

Producers should keep Jao in mind for their new projects because he's outgrown his teeny-bopper image of old and is now coming on strong as a young adult leading man.

For his part, Mark Anthony is starring in Regal's "Hesus Rebolusyonaryo," a film set in the near future that shows the Philippines being taken over by a military junta. This is a good comeback bid for the young actor, but his return is clouded by talk that he's still having problems in his personal life.

Clearly, Mark Anthony has to master his private demons before his career can really flourish, this second (or is it third?) time around.

Finally, producers hope that this is the year when **Gabby Concepcion** makes his local film comeback, after more than five years in the United States. The problem appears to be the size of his talent fee, but perhaps some adjustments can be made in this regard.

Even if Gabby doesn't come home to make a film, however, a young look-alike of *his* is making his bid, in the person of former commercial model **Rafael Rossell**. Rafael is costarring in a film with **Jolina Magdangal**, "Kung Ikaw Ay Isang Panaginip." Also latching onto a female star to get noticed on the big screen is **Luis Alandy**, who's **Judy Ann Santos**' leading man in "May Pag-ibig Pa Kaya?"

Finally, **Yul Servo** is the young star of "Batang West Side," a film shot in the States that has had limited exposure to date. If the movie gets additional playdates, Yul can reach a wider audience and thus be able to compete more vigorously for the film audience's attention.

Back to comebacks: **Richard Gomez** hasn't made a movie in years, but he's making up for lost time by way of his new film, "Ikaw Lamang, Walang Iba," with **Regine Velasquez**, which has an early-Valentine playdate. The Regine connection helped **Robin Padilla** make his own comeback several years ago, so it could work for Richard, too.

New installments

NOW that "Harry Potter" and "The Lord of the Rings" have launched their film franchises, when can film fans hope to see their next installments?

The second "Harry Potter" film, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets," will be released this November. In it, **Kenneth Branagh** and **John Cleese** join Daniel Radcliffe and company. Script is still by **Steven Cloves**, and direction by **Chris Columbus**. The film is about Harry's adventures and misadventures during his second year at Hogwarts.

As for the second "Lord of the Rings" movie, it will be shown a month later, in December, and is titled "The Two Towers." The second installment in the "Rings" trilogy shows what happens to each of the members of the Fellowship of the Ring after their group breaks up, all the way to the coming of the Great Darkness, just before the outbreak of the War of the Ring.

Unlike the "Harry Potter" films, which were shot separately, all three "Lord of the Rings" movies were shot last year in New Zealand by director **Peter Jackson**.

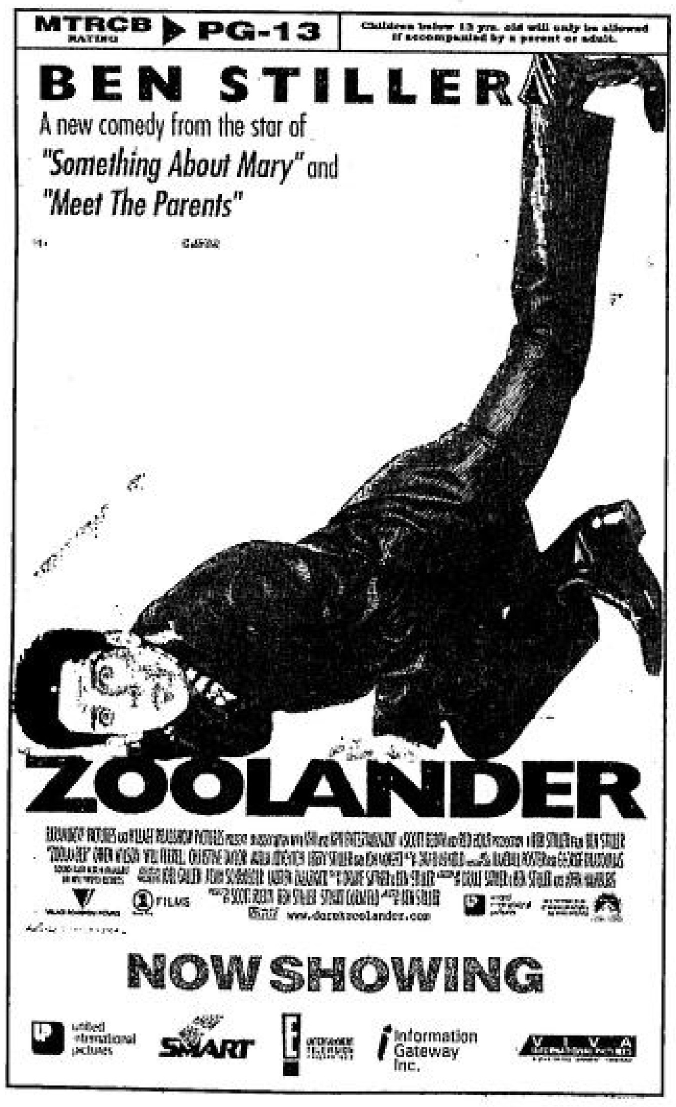
This was also the shooting style used for the two "Matrix" sequels starring **Keanu Reeves**.

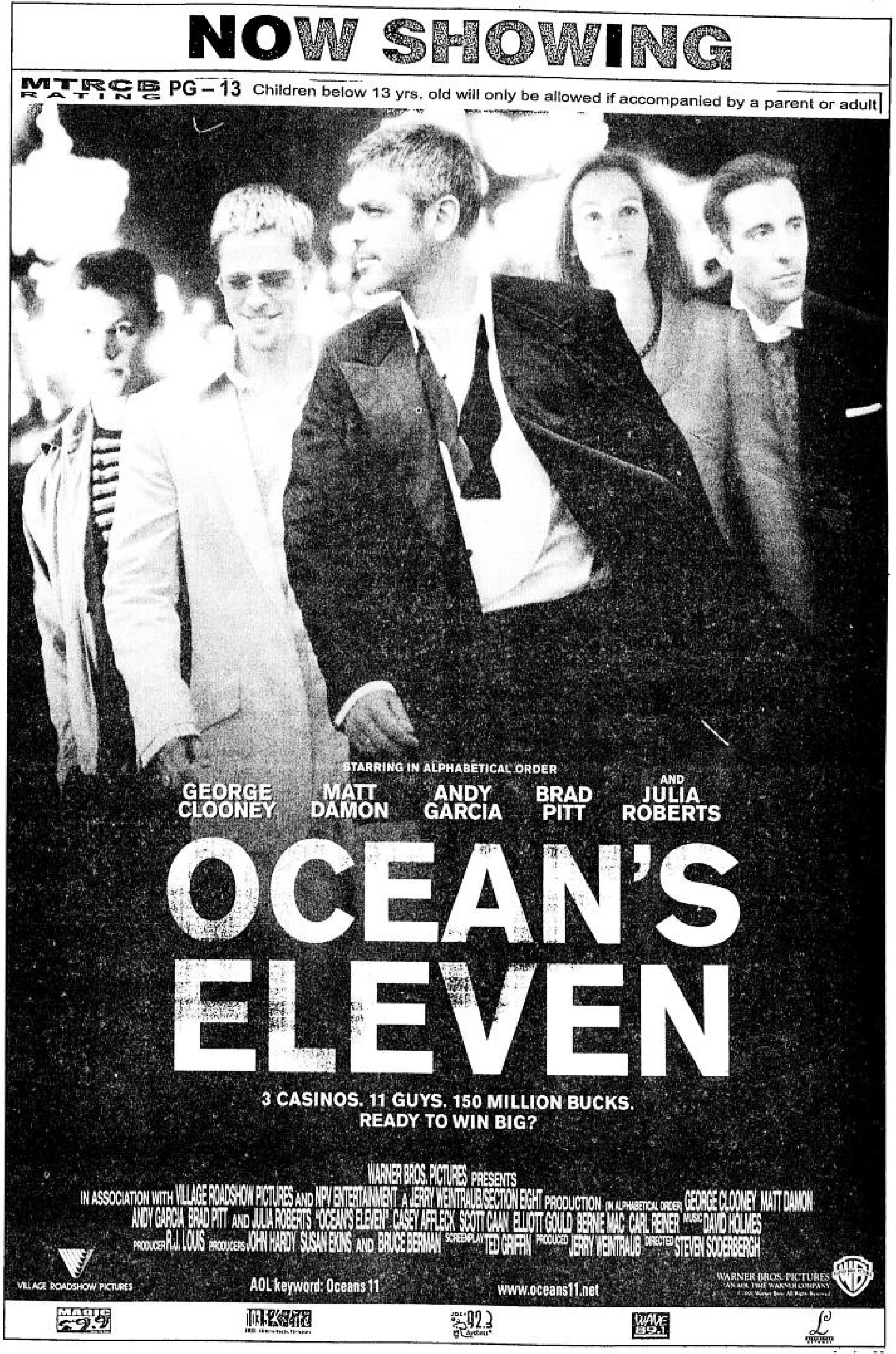
COMEBACKS/A29

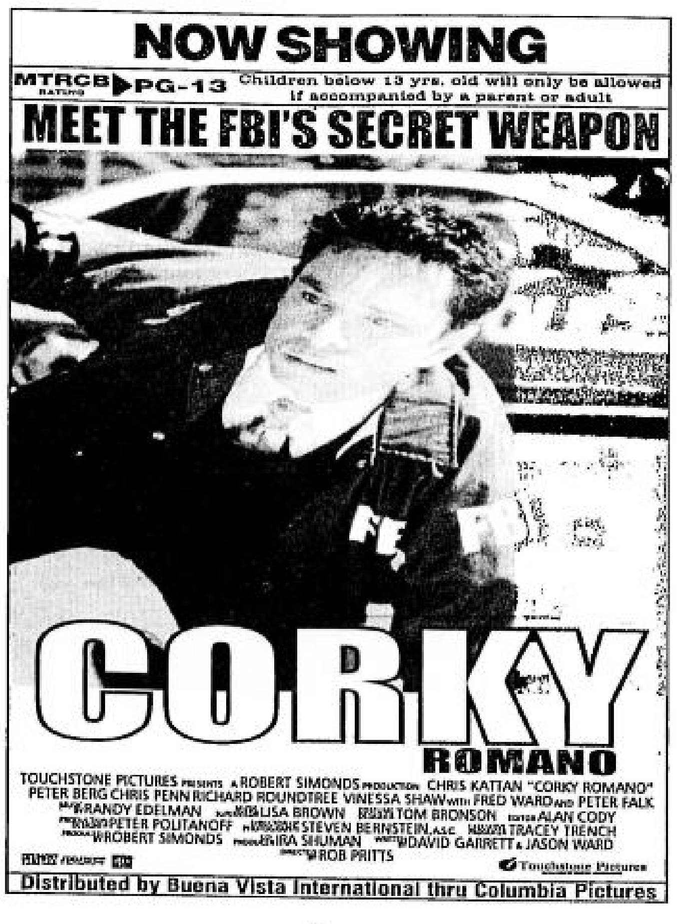
POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

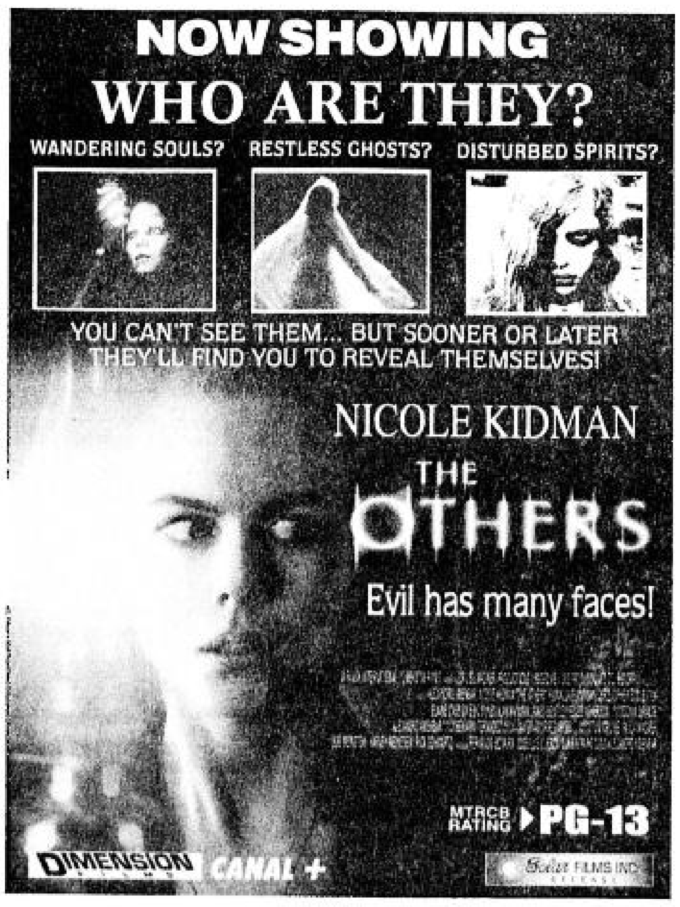
ZOOLANDER - P13 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45	CORKY ROMANO - P13 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30	AMERICAN ADOBO - R18 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
BEHIND ENEMY LINES - P13 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10	OCEAN'S ELEVEN - P13 11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:10

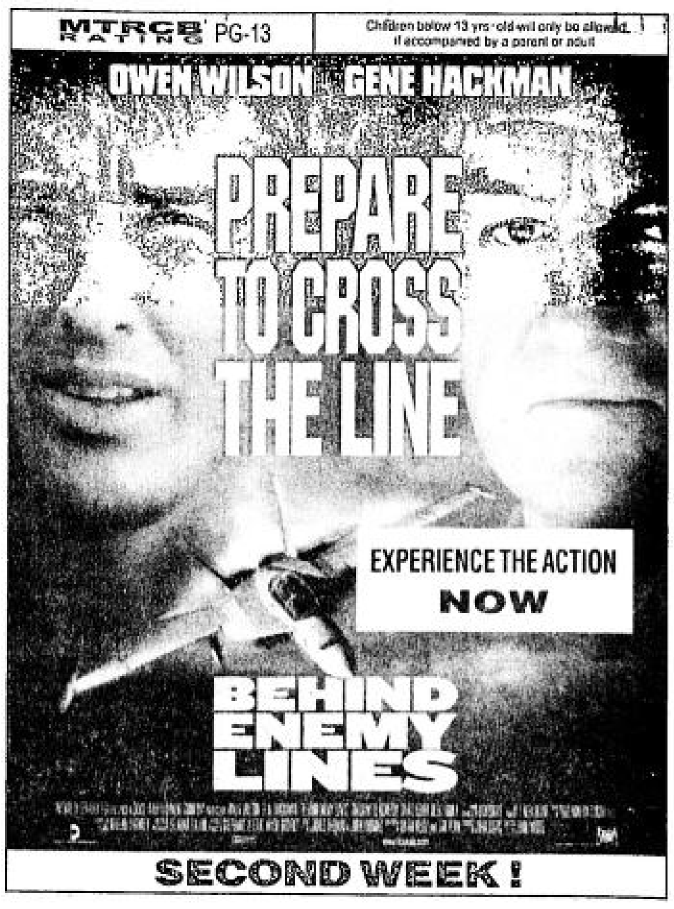
Matinee, P80, Mon.-Fri., 11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.


MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
BEN STILLER
A new comedy from the star of "Something About Mary" and "Meet The Parents"
ZOOLANDER
www.dereksoolander.com
NOW SHOWING
united international pictures
SMART
Information Gateway Inc.
VIVA


NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG – 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
STARRING IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER
GEORGE CLOONEY
MATT DAMON
ANDY GARCIA
BRAD PITT
AND JULIA ROBERTS
OCEAN'S ELEVEN
3 CASINOS. 11 GUYS. 150 MILLION BUCKS.
READY TO WIN BIG?
WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENTS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES AND NPV ENTERTAINMENT A JERRY WEINTRAUB/SECTION EIGHT PRODUCTION IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER GEORGE CLOONEY MATT DAMON ANDY GARCIA BRAD PITT AND JULIA ROBERTS "OCEAN'S ELEVEN" CASEY AFFLECK SCOTT CAAN ELLIOTT GOULD BERNIE MAC CARL REINER MUSIC DAVID HOLMES PRODUCER R.J. LOUIS PRODUCERS JOHN HARDY SUSAN EKINS AND BRUCE BERMAN SCREENPLAY TED GRIFFIN PRODUCED JERRY WEINTRAUB DIRECTED STEVEN SODERBERGH
VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
AOL keyword: Oceans 11
www.oceans11.net
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
MAGIC 89.9
92.3
WAVE 89.1


NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
MEET THE FBI'S SECRET WEAPON
CORKY ROMANO
TOUCHSTONE PICTURES PRESENTS A ROBERT SIMONDS PRODUCTION CHRIS KATTAN "CORKY ROMANO" PETER BERG CHRIS PENN RICHARD ROUNDTREE VINESSA SHAW WITH FRED WARD AND PETER FALK
RANDY EDELMAN
LISA BROWN
TOM BRONSON
ALAN CODY
PETER POLITANOFF
STEVEN BERNSTEIN, A.S.C.
TRACEY TRENCH
ROBERT SIMONDS
IRA SHUMAN
DAVID GARRETT & JASON WARD
ROB PRITTS
Touchstone Pictures
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures


NOW SHOWING
WHO ARE THEY?
WANDERING SOULS?
RESTLESS GHOSTS?
DISTURBED SPIRITS?
YOU CAN'T SEE THEM... BUT SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL FIND YOU TO REVEAL THEMSELVES!
NICOLE KIDMAN
THE OTHERS
Evil has many faces!
MTRCB RATING PG-13
DIMENSION
CANAL +


MTRCB RATING PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
OWEN WILSON
GENE HACKMAN
PREPARE TO CROSS THE LINE
EXPERIENCE THE ACTION NOW
BEHIND ENEMY LINES
SECOND WEEK!

Directors honor makers of 'Mind,' 'Moulin Rouge'

LOS ANGELES—The makers of the two hottest contenders for this year's Oscar awards—"A Beautiful Mind" and "Moulin Rouge"—were Tuesday both nominated as best director by the Directors Guild of America.

The director's guild award is seen as an accurate bellwether for the winner of the Academy Award for best director which will be bestowed in Hollywood on March 24.

The director's guild, the union of film makers, picked "Mind" director Ron Howard and "Moulin Rouge" maker Baz Luhrmann among their list of the five top directors of last year.

Also nominated were Peter Jackson for the fantasy flick "The Lord of the Rings: Fellowship of the Ring," Briton Christopher Nolan for his moving film "Memento" and fellow countryman Ridley Scott for the combat picture "Black Hawk Down."

"Mind," the true story of mentally ill math genius John Forbes, took four honors at Sunday's Golden Globe Awards, including best drama, while elaborate musical "Moulin" cornered three including best musical film of the year.

The unusual multiple awards have made the two pictures firm frontrunners for the Oscars, nominations for which will be announced on Feb. 12.

Last year, the guild gave its top plaudit to Taiwanese director Ang Lee for "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," which went on to sweep up Oscars, but missed out on the best director honor which went to Steven Soderbergh for "Traffic." *AFP*

I thank God for giving me a remarkable . . .

(From page A32)

and she couldn't help but laugh at my new, weird self-inflicted injury. She said that what happened was a sign for me to stop shopping.

Unfortunately, she didn't fall for my excuse that the only reason I'd gone shopping was to buy her a birthday gift.

Before we hung up, she said that **Mel**, her bodyguard who answered my phone call since he's the one who holds my mom's cell phone, was worried and had asked if Josh had gotten into an accident again. My mom said it was me this time, "because *alam mo naman* take turns *yung mag-nanay.*"

Today, my mom turns 69. I know that even if I'm now a mom, I'll always be her baby. I just pray that she'll continue to be blessed with good health. The thing is I can't recall my mom having ever been confined overnight in the hospital. Probably the last time was when she was giving birth to me and she almost didn't make it because her blood pressure dropped to almost zero.

She hemorrhaged and she can now laugh when she recalls that when she finally came to, she heard the doctors saying *"Mabuti-buti na.* 60 over 40 *na ang* B.P." She thought to herself, "Wow, I must have been in really bad shape."

I know that I've given her more heartaches than any loving mom deserves. I also know that despite the fact that Josh and I are still a bit naughty and although I'm still at times immature, we do manage to give her a lot of joy. I pray today that we'll continue to do that for many years to come.

Lastly, I'll take the advice of **Bo Sanchez**. I know I don't say it nearly enough, I know that my pride gets in the way, but I am so grateful to have been blessed with the mom I have. I thank God for giving me such a remarkable, incomparable, and above all, devoted mom.

Thanks for being my mom! Happy birthday! I love you mom!

Comebacks . . .

(From page A28)

Feedback

FROM **Lauro J. Jocson** of Makati City: "I would like to ask about Philippine movie greats. In America, they preserve their movies; American movies are made available to the public through tapes and discs.

"In the US, I was able to buy VHS tapes of prewar movies like 'Beau Geste,' 'Blood and Sand,' and even all of the 12 chapters of 'The Adventures of Captain Marvel.'

"Even great movies like 'Gone with the Wind' and 'Casablanca' are sold in VHS tapes and discs in video stores.

"I wish I could say the same for Filipino films. I've been looking for a tape or disc of **Ishmael Bernal**'s "Himala" but have been unsuccessful thus far.

"What about 'Jaguar' and 'Virgin Forest,' which to me is a realistic story of the men who trekked through the forest to capture Gen. **Emilio Aguinaldo** in Palanan, Isabela?

"I do not even attempt to look for a tape of 'Anak Dalita,' an Asian filmfest winner, or 'Pagda-ting sa Dulo,' a Bernal movie that has been hailed a sa classic. I know they are not available. In fact, I understand that 'Pagdating . . . ' has been lost forever—nobody knows anybodywho has a copy of the movie.

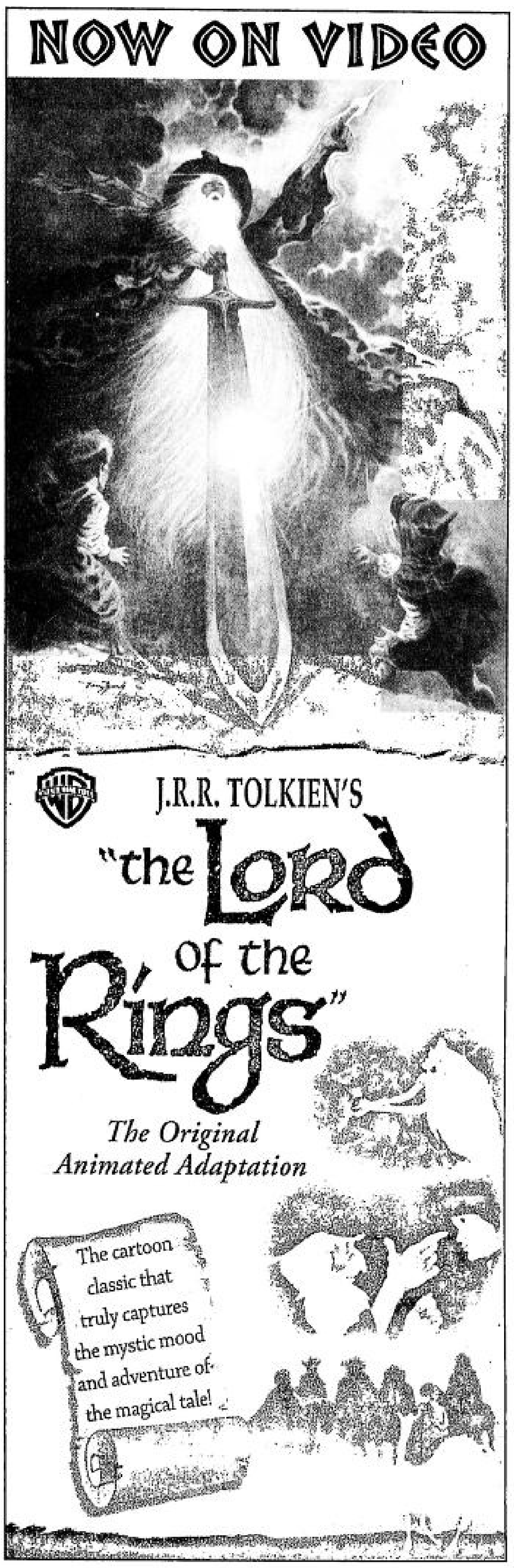
"Sometime ago, a group led by Mr. **Arnedo Lucas Jr.** showed a few old Filipino films on TV, including a pre-war movie starring **Tita Duran**. However, the project was short-lived.

"Decades ago, the Manila Film Center was put up partly to provide a storage house for old Filipino films. Well, we all know what's happened to the MFC.

"However, that shouldn't mean the death of the attempt to save Filipino film classics. I have not given up searching. Perhaps when I do the rounds of local video shops, I might yet stumble on some great local movies. How about that prewar classic, 'Sakay?'"

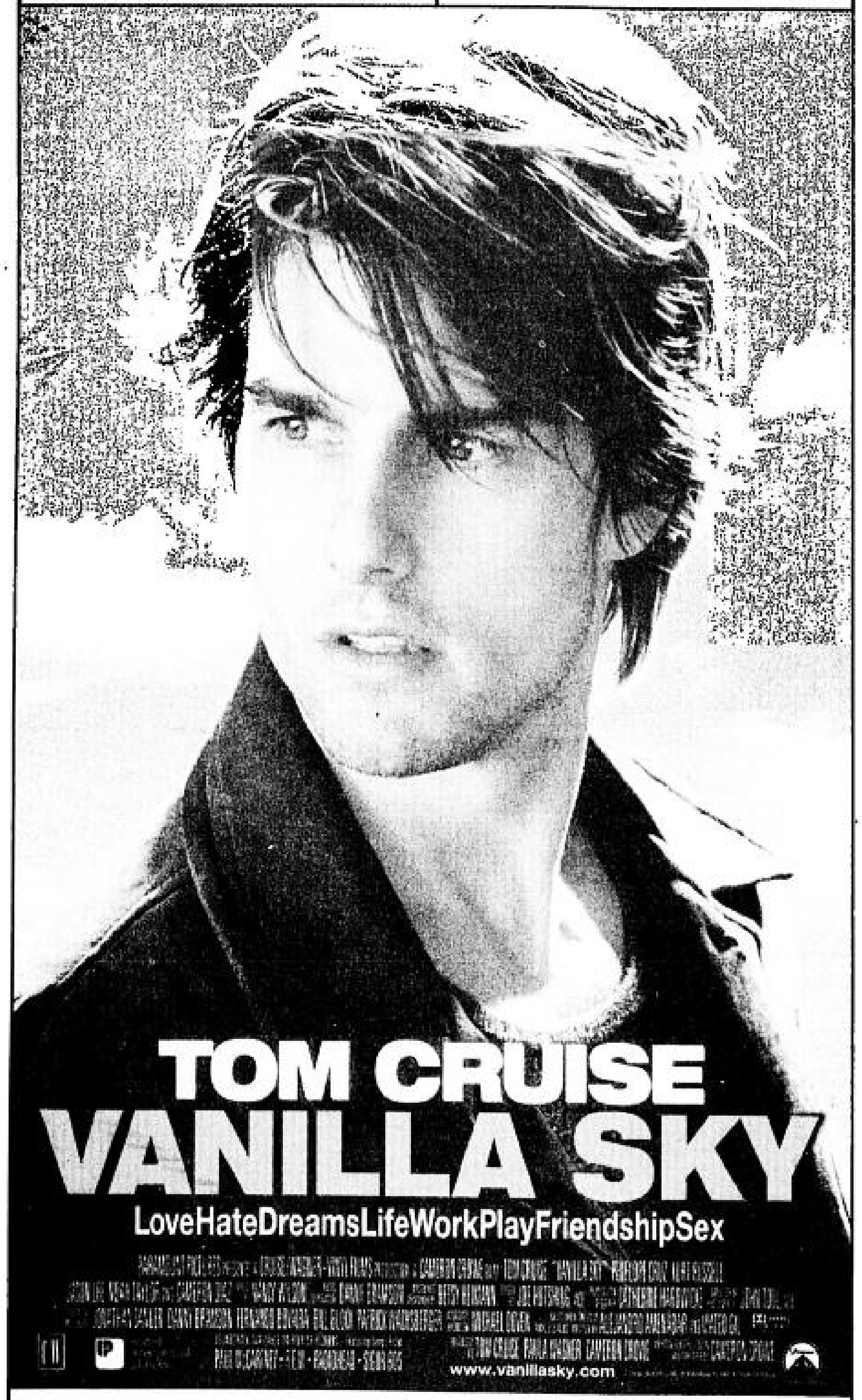
(***Our reply tomorrow***)

NOW ON VIDEO



J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S
"the LORD of the Rings"
The Original Animated Adaptation
The cartoon classic that truly captures the mystic mood and adventure of the magical tale!

MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED
Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.



united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
OPENS FEBRUARY 6

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

FROM THE PRODUCER OF "ENEMY OF THE STATE" AND THE DIRECTOR OF "GLADIATOR"
LEAVE NO MAN BEHIND
BLACK HAWK DOWN
sony.com/BlackHawkDown
REVOLUTION STUDIOS

All star cast!

"The best war movie I've seen!"
-- Larry King, CNN

From Ridley Scott, acclaimed director of GLADIATOR and Jerry Bruckheimer, producer of PEARL HARBOR comes a war epic voted by *Time Magazine* as one of the best films of the year.

The all-star cast includes the brightest names in young Hollywood: Josh Hartnett of PEARL HARBOR, Ewan McGregor of MOULIN ROUGE and Orlando Bloom, the well-loved Legolas in LORD OF THE RINGS.

Columbia Pictures' BLACK HAWK DOWN is the true story of elite American soldiers on a mission to stop a ruthless Somalian warlord in 1993.

Don't miss this must-see movie event, described by CNN's Larry King as "the best war movie I've ever seen."

OPENS JANUARY 30!

OPENS JAN. 30

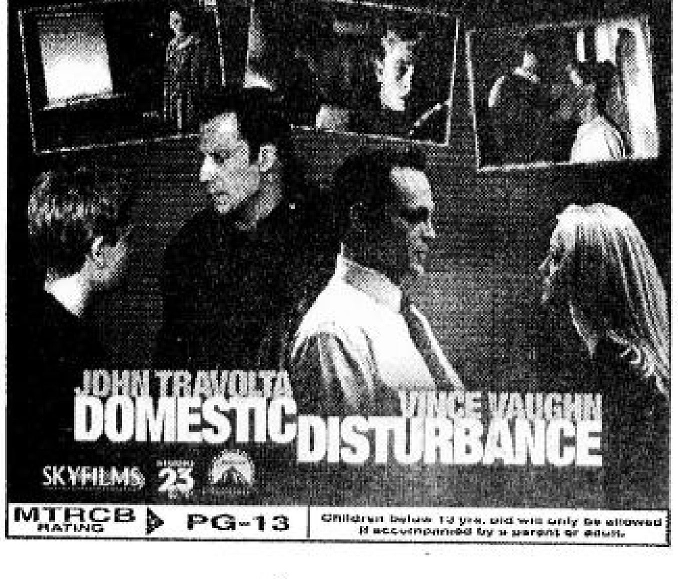
Frank Morrison (John Travolta) no longer lives with his ex-wife Susan (Teri Polo) and twelve year-old son Danny (Matt O'Leary).

Susan and Danny now live with Rick Barnes (Vince Vaughn), Susan's new husband.

Danny, who has a reputation for telling lies, has accused his stepfather of committing a murder.

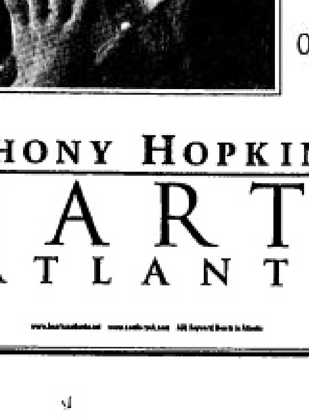
Frank is the only one who believes him.

Now the father Danny trusts must protect him from the stepfather he fears.



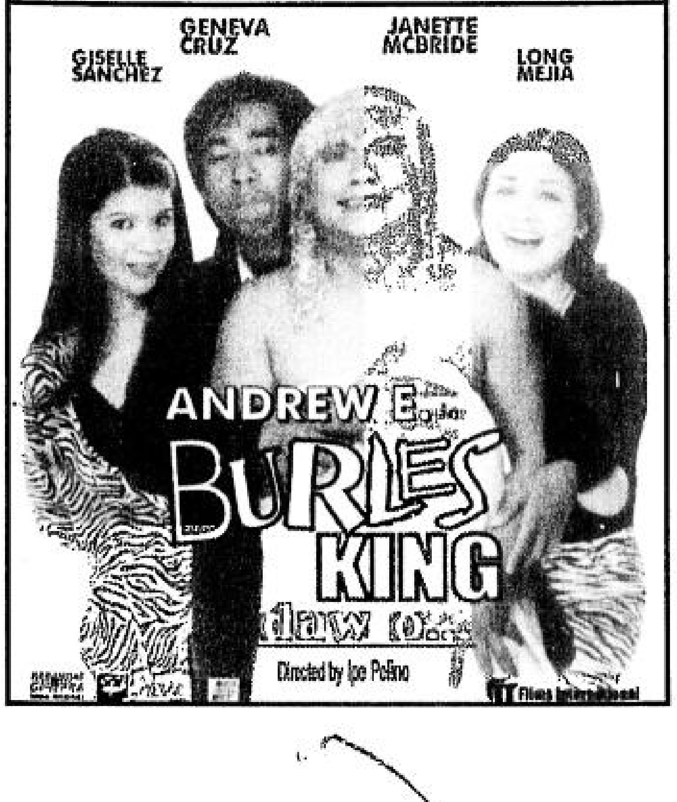
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

OPENS JANUARY 30!
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
"TWO THUMBS UP."
-EBERT & ROEPER
"★★★★"
"A CAPTIVATING MOVIE EXPERIENCE. ANTHONY HOPKINS CREATES A FASCINATING MYSTIQUE."



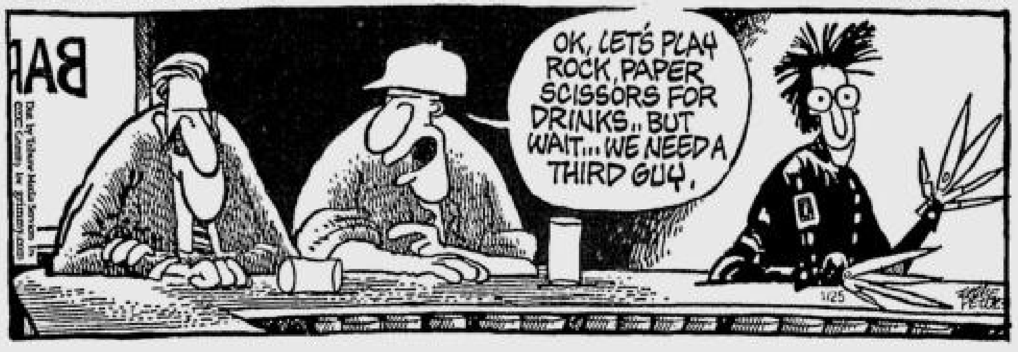
"A QUIETLY POWERFUL, BEAUTIFULLY BURNISHED DEPTH CHARGE OF A MOVIE."
ANTHONY HOPKINS
HEARTS IN ATLANTIS

Move over... The Hunks
Ang Bagong Hari
to the Bones
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.



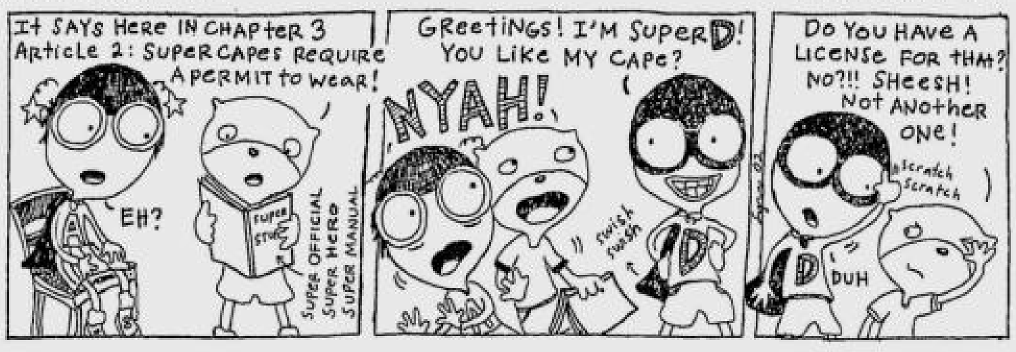
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


BAR
OK, LET'S PLAY ROCK, PAPER SCISSORS FOR DRINKS.. BUT WAIT... WE NEED A THIRD GUY.
1/25

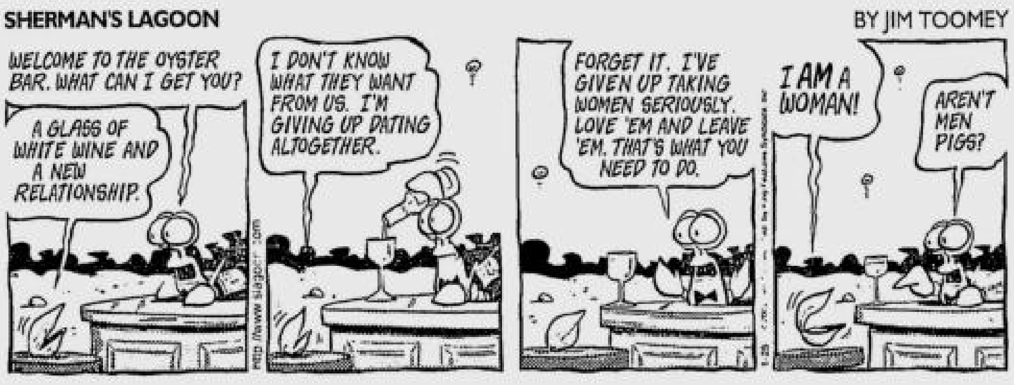
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


It SAYS Here IN CHAPTER 3 Article 2: SUPERCAPES Require A PERMIT to Wear!
EH?
SUPER OFFICIAL SUPER HERO SUPER MANUAL
GReetiNGS! I'M SuperD! You Like MY CAPE?
NYAH!
swish swash
Do You HAVE A LICENSE FOR THAT? NO?!! SHeesH! Not Another one!
Scratch Scratch
DUH

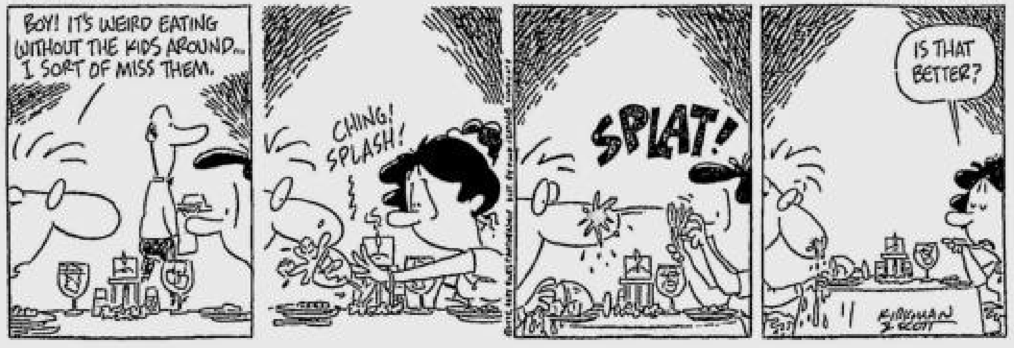
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


WELCOME TO THE OYSTER BAR. WHAT CAN I GET YOU?
A GLASS OF WHITE WINE AND A NEW RELATIONSHIP.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY WANT FROM US. I'M GIVING UP DATING ALTOGETHER.
FORGET IT. I'VE GIVEN UP TAKING WOMEN SERIOUSLY. LOVE 'EM AND LEAVE 'EM. THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.
I AM A WOMAN!
AREN'T MEN PIGS?

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


BOY! IT'S WEIRD EATING WITHOUT THE KIDS AROUND... I SORT OF MISS THEM.
CHING! SPLASH!
SPLAT!
IS THAT BETTER?
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alicia Keys, Dean Jones, Jacqueline DuPre, Dinah Manoff, Andy Cox

Happy Birthday: Nothing can stop you this year if you focus on your goals. Use your added discipline, good ideas and strength to stand up to anyone who might try to hold you back. Your numbers are 8, 13, 28, 33, 42, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your desire to make things happen will put you into the limelight. You will attract all sorts of attention.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Join groups that will help you become aware of your talents. You are creative and you must bring that out in your work. Discipline and determination can lead to success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You have to keep busy today. You'll be emotional and indecisive if you don't gauge yourself and your time well. Make a game plan and stick to it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's time to do a personal makeover. Reevaluate yourself and decide what changes are appropriate. By improving your attitude and outlook you will be able to improve your relationships as well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): If you aren't completely happy with your personal life it's time to sit back and decide what changes must be made. Travel and interaction with others should take top priority.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make changes if you want to stay on top of your game. Residential moves may be necessary. Your creative talent should be developed through art courses.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be persuasive and able to make your point. Travel, entertainment and socializing should be mixed together. Have confidence in yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be a die-hard for the underdog today. You can meet new friends and possible partners through the groups you join. Don't be shy, you have a lot to offer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may not feel too sure of yourself today if you have disrupted your relationship with someone you care about. You can turn things around if you are affectionate and willing to listen.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Opportunities will come from someone in a higher position. The more disciplined and detailed you are the more attention you will attract.

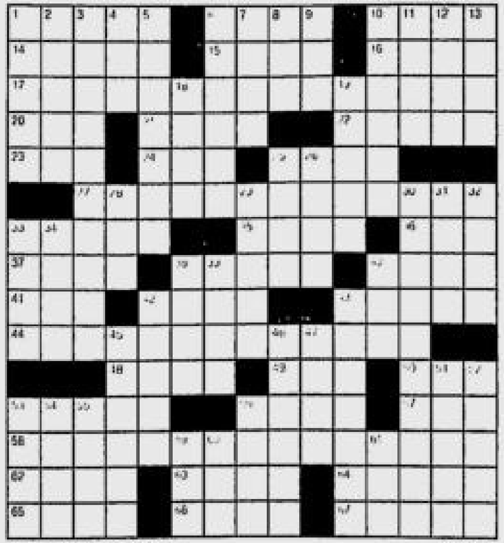
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can do it all today if you organize. If you are interested in pursuing something creative, you should. You will find yourself involved in something interesting.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It will be hard for you to make the right choice today. If you can put things off, do so. You are best to work by yourself putting things in order.

Birthday Baby: You work well with others. You will make sacrifices and will compromise to have everything around you run smoothly. You are a thinker who needs a challenge and you will always strive for greatness.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

12/11/01

ACROSS
1 Russian villa
6 Olden days
10 Lena of "Havana"
14 Egg-shaped
15 "O don fatale" or "Vissi d'arte"
16 Dunce-cap shape
17 Brass
20 First name of a canine star?
21 Planters
22 "Waste Land" poet
23 Frazier's foe, often
24 Scull propeller
25 Continental prefix
27 Brass
33 Take the plunge?
35 Sheep fat
36 At this moment
37 Yard-sale warning
38 French military caps
40 Not working
41 Ike's arena
42 Nobel-winner Morrison
43 Hold the tiller
44 Brass
48 Kisses' partner?
49 FDR group
50 Pugilists' grp.
53 Embellish
56 Tracks to NYC
57 Made tracks
58 Brass
62 Work units
63 Cold-cut palace
64 Lauder of cosmetics
65 Fastidious
66 Mimics
67 Nifty!

DOWN
1 Portuguese currency unit
2 Be of use to
3 Fit of anger
4 Put out of the way
5 Fatty
6 Crust dough
7 Well-practiced skills
8 Military address
9 Greek letter
10 Spotted wildcat
11 Anderson of "WKRP..."
12 Fascinated by
13 Hatchlings' home
18 Genesis man
19 Be worthy of
25 Needle case
26 Shoshone tribe members
28 Sounds of uncertainty
29 Meat jelly
30 Guarantee against failure
31 1996 loser
32 Water pitcher
33 Humanitas founder Joan
34 __ Spumante
38 Donkey or King follower
39 Remnants
40 Follower: suffix
42 Mocking reproach
43 Sprinkles
45 "__ Stopped at Eboli"
46 Pygmy antelopes
47 Persian fairy
51 Breakfast ring
52 Photographer Adams
53 Grace closing
54 Ominous
55 Russian saint
56 Singer Lovett
59 Nabokov book
60 GOP member
61 Compass dir.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

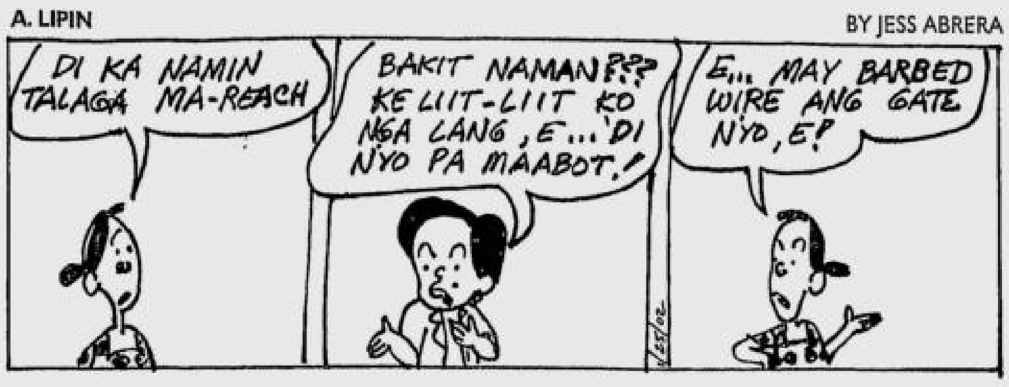
S	W	A	G	■	H	A	G	A	R	■	F	A	D	S
P	A	N	E	■	A	B	I	D	E	■	U	T	A	H
I	N	T	E	R	M	E	Z	Z	O	■	Z	O	N	E
N	E	E	■	E	L	L	A	■	R	A	Z	Z	E	D
■	■	■	■	H	I	E	■	I	D	L	Y	■	■	■
H	A	P	P	E	N	■	S	T	A	L	W	A	R	T
O	P	I	U	M	■	C	C	C	I	■	U	B	E	R
B	E	N	Z	■	S	H	A	H	N	■	Z	U	N	I
B	A	E	Z	■	C	A	R	Y	■	A	Z	T	E	C
S	K	Y	L	A	R	K	S	■	E	L	Y	S	E	E
■	■	■	E	L	E	A	■	M	I	L	■	■	■	■
A	N	E	M	I	A	■	C	A	L	E	■	B	A	S
D	A	T	E	■	M	I	Z	Z	E	N	M	A	S	T
A	T	T	N	■	E	V	A	D	E	■	A	R	I	A
M	O	A	T	■	R	E	R	A	N	■	D	E	A	R

(C)2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved

12/11/01

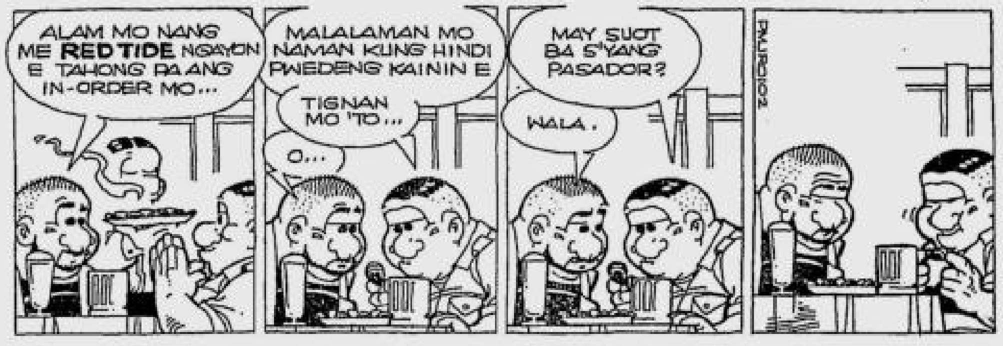
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


DI KA NAMIN TALAGA MA-REACH
BAKIT NAMAN?!?! KE LIIT-LIIT KO NGA LANG, E... 'DI NYO PA MAABOT!
E... MAY BARBED WIRE ANG GATE NYO, E!

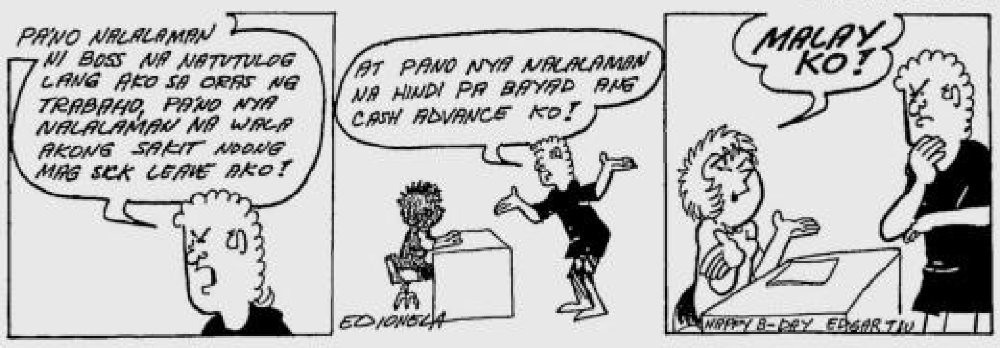
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


ALAM MO NANG ME RED TIDE NGAYON E TAHONG PA ANG IN-ORDER MO...
MALALAMAN MO NAMAN KUNG HINDI PWEDENG KAININ E
TIGNAN MO 'TO...
O...
MAY SUOT BA S'YANG PASADOR?
WALA.

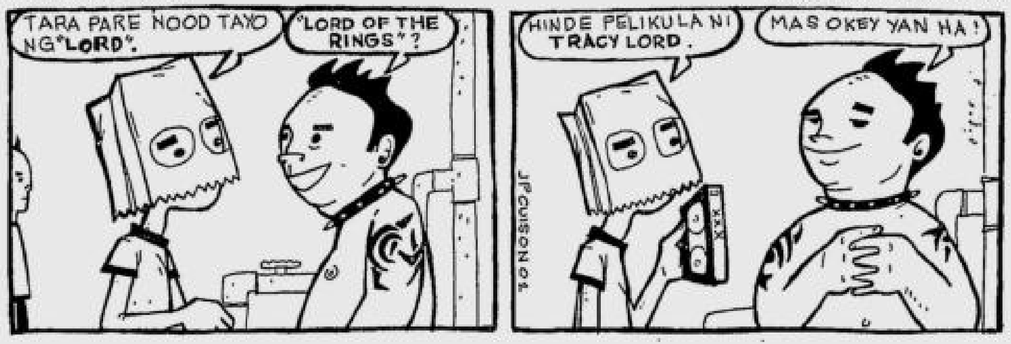
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


PA'NO NALALAMAN NI BOSS NA NATUTULOG LANG AKO SA ORAS NG TRABAHO, PA'NO NYA NALALAMAN NA WALA AKONG SAKIT NOONG MAG SICK LEAVE AKO!
AT PANO NYA NALALAMAN NA HINDI PA BAYAD ANG CASH ADVANCE KO!
MALAY KO!
ED IONELA
HAPPY B-DAY EDGAR TIU

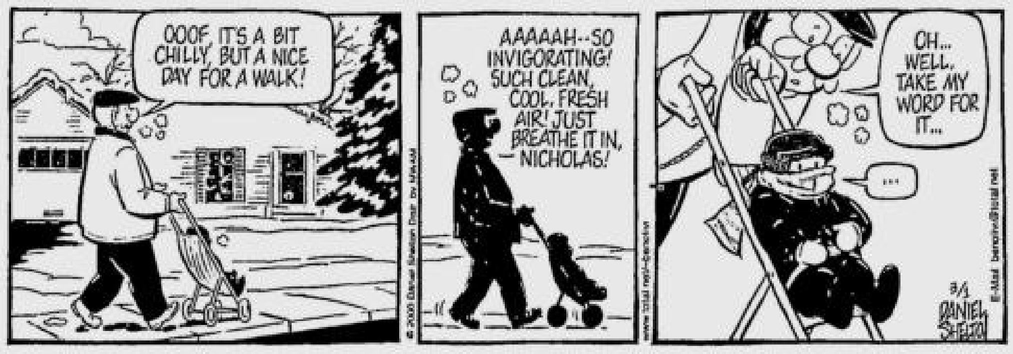
GARAPATA BLOOD

BY JOHN PAUL CUISON


TARA PARE NOOD TAYO NG "LORD".
"LORD OF THE RINGS"?
HINDE PELIKULA NI TRACY LORD.
MAS OKEY YAN HA!
JPCUISON 02

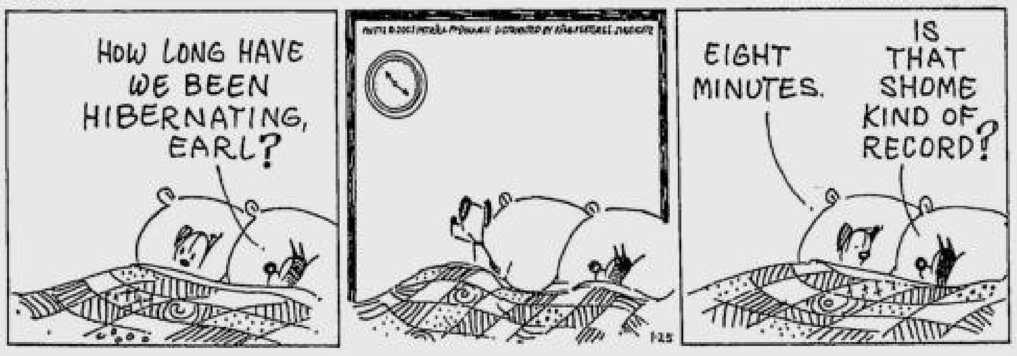
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


OOOF, IT'S A BIT CHILLY, BUT A NICE DAY FOR A WALK!
AAAAAH--SO INVIGORATING! SUCH CLEAN, COOL, FRESH AIR! JUST BREATHE IT IN, NICHOLAS!
OH... WELL, TAKE MY WORD FOR IT...
...
3/1 DANIEL SHELTON

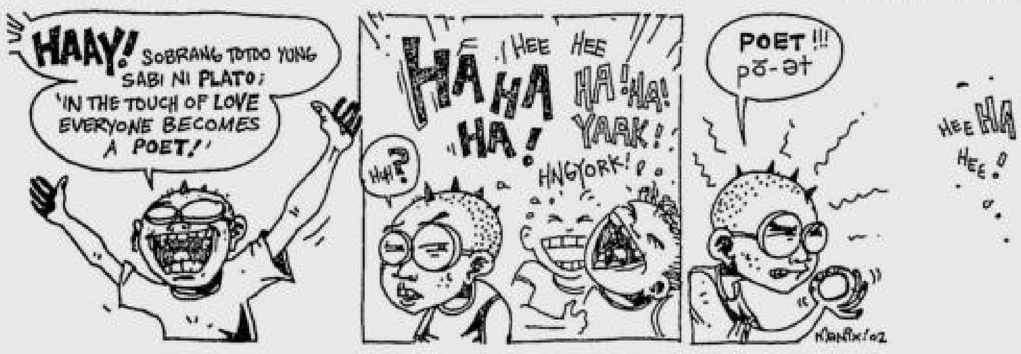
MUTTS

BY PATRICK MCDONNELL


HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN HIBERNATING, EARL?
EIGHT MINUTES.
IS THAT SHOME KIND OF RECORD?
1-25

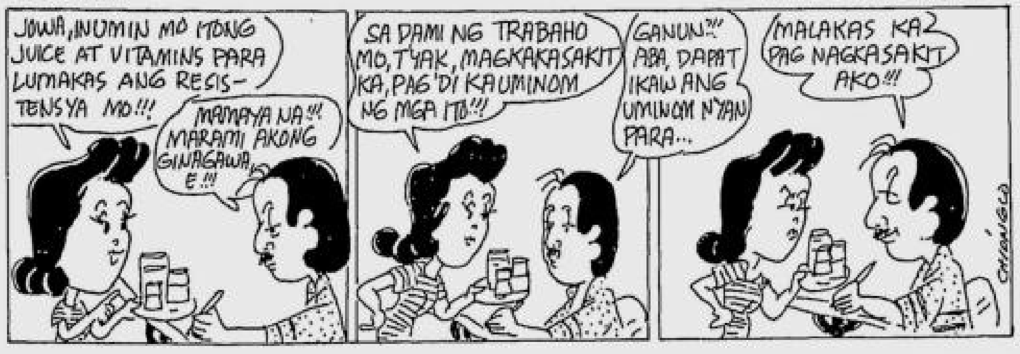
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HAAY! SOBRANG TOTOO YUNG SABI NI PLATO; 'IN THE TOUCH OF LOVE EVERYONE BECOMES A POET!'
HA HA HA!
HEE HEE
HA! HA! YAAK!
HNGYORK!
HH?
POET!!! pō-ət
HEE HA HEE
MANIX'02

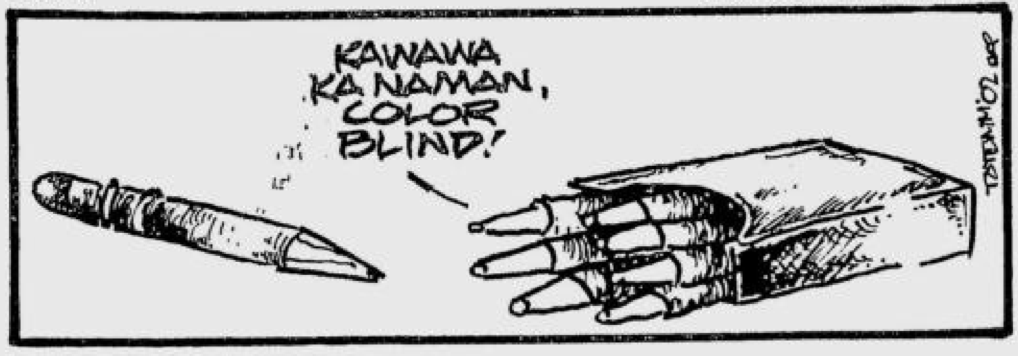
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JOWA, INUMIN MO ITONG JUICE AT VITAMINS PARA LUMAKAS ANG RESISTENSYA MO!!!
MAMAYA NA!!! MARAMI AKONG GINAGAWA, E!!!
SA DAMI NG TRABAHO MO, TYAK, MAGKAKASAKIT KA, PAG 'DI KA UMINOM NG MGA ITO!!!
GANUN?!! ABA, DAPAT IKAW ANG UMINOM NYAN PARA...
MALAKAS KA PAG NAGKASAKIT AKO!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


KAWAWA KA NAMAN, COLOR BLIND!

Now without a late-night show, Martin still gets good breaks abroad

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

WHEN **Martin Nievera** returned from the United States middle of last week, he found out that his ABS-CBN show, "Martin Late @ Nite," had been airing replays and the network had plans of moving the show to Studio 23.

Martin had a meeting with the ABS-CBN executives last Wednesday and he has yet to be told about the real status of his show.

"Before I left for the States, I was told that the show would be moved to primetime on Studio 23 and replays would be aired on ABS-CBN," Martin shares. "But I was the last one to know. As of today, I don't have a show. I'm left in the dark. I don't know where I stand."

Martin points out that for the past two years, he has no contract with ABS-CBN for his late-night show.

"No piece of paper can make me loyal," he says. "My loyalty with ABS-CBN is from the heart. It's just sad that people can't tell it straight to your face that 'you're not doing well, we have to let you go.'

"We may not bring huge amount of money to the station because of the late-night timeslot of the show. But a lot of people watch the show."

Still, the cancellation of his show is nothing new to Martin.

"I'm used to this," he says. "It's not going to kill me. ABS-CBN has been good to me all these years. I'd like to think that the door closes to another one which will open."

True enough, Martin has been getting the breaks in the international scene. While in Los Angeles, he recorded with **Radha** the song, "Why Can't We," for the soundtrack of "Austin Powers 3."

Martin also recorded "Lady," for the next movie of comedian **Rob Schneider**, with the working title, "Hot Chicks."

The bigger break for Martin is the chance to perform as front act for **Marc Anthony** in four of the latter's 19-city concert tour of the United States.

Mexican-American auditor **Pete Salgado**, who works for the big recording companies in the US, was the one who proposed to Marc Anthony to include Martin in the tour. As most everyone knows, the Puerto Rican singer is married to former Miss Universe **Dayanara Torres**, who had a brief show biz career here in the Philippines.

"Pete simply told Marc Anthony, ask your wife about Martin. He is a very popular singer in the Philippines," Martin shares. "When Marc heard what Dayanara said about me, he immediately told Pete to offer me to go on the tour with him. But nothing is written in stone yet. It was just a verbal offer."

The breaks that he has been getting abroad bring Martin close to his dream of going international.

"Every step I take toward my dream, it's taking me one step away from my fans and my children," he says. "But I know now that the secret to life is it's okay to be (me) you."

Inspired by the line from the song of Five for Fighting's "Superman," Martin says he will sing **John Ondrasik**'s hit for the first time in his forthcoming major concert, "XV4 Ever," Feb. 2 at the Araneta Coliseum.

The show, mounted by Crossover, marks Martin's 19th year in the business and also celebrates his 40th birthday (Feb. 5).

"We'll give you the old stuff in a new way," Martin assures. "This may be the last of this kind that you'll see me here. It may not happen again in a long while as I do other things."

BELIEVE it or not, but Martin Nievera says his loyalty is from the heart.

FIVE FOR THE MUSIC. Newest boy band Synch-O

Make way for Synch-O

SYNCH-O, the name of the newest boy band in the local entertainment scene, seems to have been coined after popular international groups like N'Synch, O-Town or Five. Since Synch-O is also a five-man band, the name is simply apt for the local group recently launched by Talentworks Entertainment Corp.

Synch-O is composed of **John Richardson** (18), **Mark Anthony Carballo** (20), **Glenn Sta. Cruz** (19), **Jeffrey Labongray** (16) and **Morris Claveria** (20). The boys were spotted from TV contests like "Cool Dudes" and "Ikaw at Echo."

When the group was formed, the boys were made to undergo an intense training program, which includes classes in dance, speech, singing and even daily sessions in the gym to prepare them for their big launch.

It was a rigorous routine for nearly two months, but the boys hardly complained. In fact, they consider themselves lucky to have been given the big break in the local entertainment scene.

Enrique Lagoc and **Henry Pawhay**, the big bosses of Talentworks Entertainment, invested their resources and put their faith on the new all-boy group. The two gathered a formidable team of professionals who would help Synch-O tread the right path to stardom.

Marvin Querido is the musical director, writer **Penny Daza** is the speech coach, **Monet Silvestre** of The Tux and DV8 is the vocal coach, **Batche Tan** is dance instructor, **Knox** as the gym trainer, **Alex Vicencio** is makeup artist, **Xander Angeles** is the official photographer, **Cathy Mahusay** and **Celeste Rodriguez** of Cut Annapolis Salon are the image consultants and **Maxi Cinco** is the wardrobe designer.

Get ready for the biggest kind of fusion.

side A freestyle
BACK2BACK
LIVE ON TOUR
with the MANOEUVRES
There's always a first time.

FEBRUARY 16
Cebu City Sports Center
8:30PM

FEBRUARY 9
ARANETA COLISEUM
8:30PM

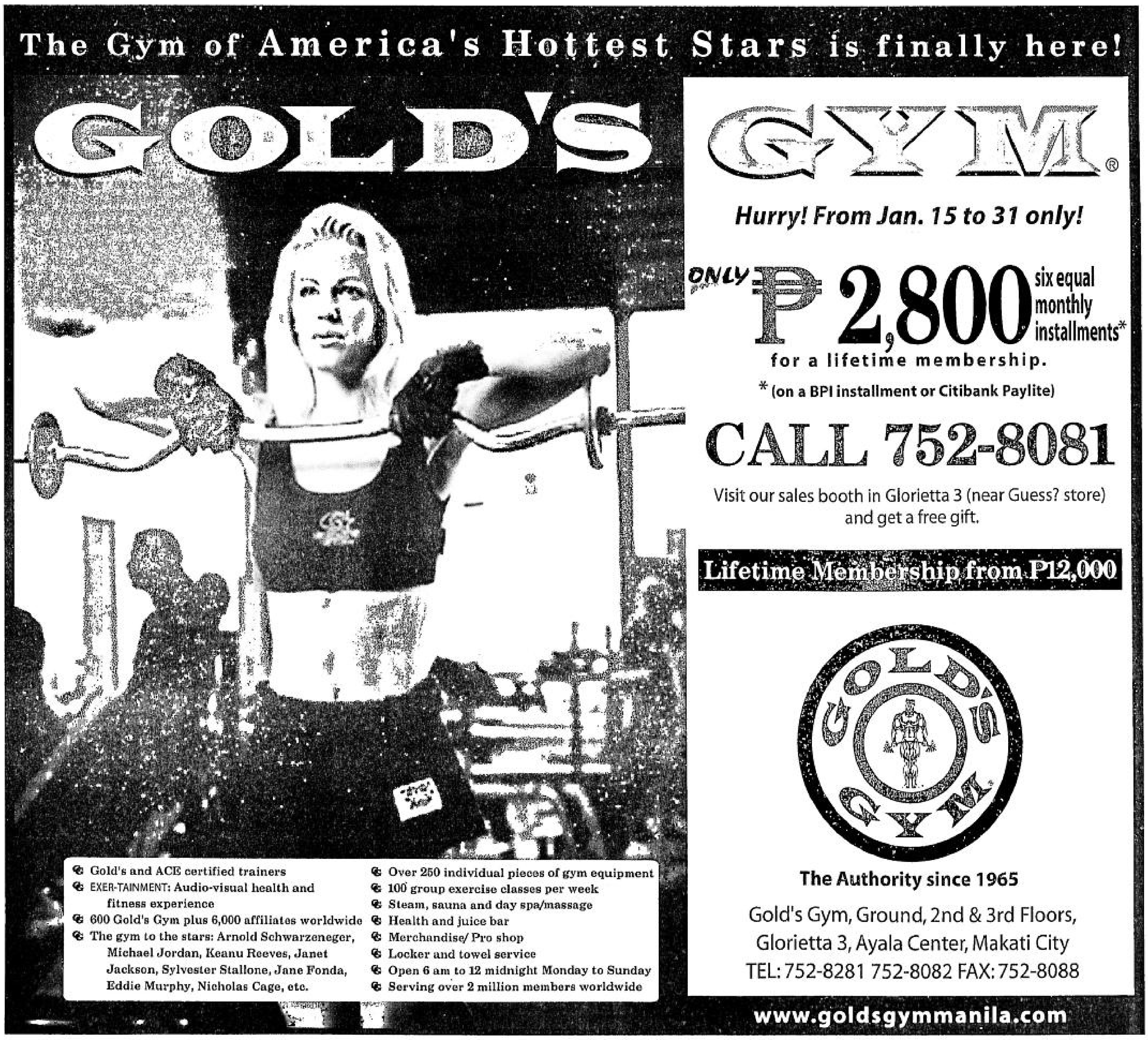
FEBRUARY 23
Freedom Ring Amphitheater
Clark Expo, Pampanga
7:00PM

Enjoy Maxi-Media's Special Anniversary Offering of tickets at very popular prices:
P150 · P300 · P600 · P800
(plus 3% ticketron service charge)

Tickets available at
MAXIMEDIA TICKETING OFFICE
551-7777
551-8999
SM TICKETNET
CALL 911-5555

CEBU Tickets are available at all Dunkin Donuts branches
SM Department Store Customer Service

CLARK, PAMPANGA Tickets are available at
SM Pampanga Customer Service
SM TicketNet Customer Service
All Jollibee branches in Pampanga, Bulacan, Tarlac & Olongapo



The Gym of America's Hottest Stars is finally here!

GOLD'S GYM®

Hurry! From Jan. 15 to 31 only!

ONLY ₱2,800 six equal monthly installments*
for a lifetime membership.
* (on a BPI installment or Citibank Paylite)

CALL 752-8081

Visit our sales booth in Glorietta 3 (near Guess? store) and get a free gift.

Lifetime Membership from P12,000

- Gold's and ACE certified trainers
- EXER-TAINMENT: Audio-visual health and fitness experience
- 600 Gold's Gym plus 6,000 affiliates worldwide
- The gym to the stars: Arnold Schwarzeneger, Michael Jordan, Keanu Reeves, Janet Jackson, Sylvester Stallone, Jane Fonda, Eddie Murphy, Nicholas Cage, etc.
- Over 250 individual pieces of gym equipment
- 100 group exercise classes per week
- Steam, sauna and day spa/massage
- Health and juice bar
- Merchandise/ Pro shop
- Locker and towel service
- Open 6 am to 12 midnight Monday to Sunday
- Serving over 2 million members worldwide

GOLD'S GYM
The Authority since 1965

Gold's Gym, Ground, 2nd & 3rd Floors,
Glorietta 3, Ayala Center, Makati City
TEL: 752-8281 752-8082 FAX: 752-8088

www.goldsgymmanila.com

ENTERTAINMENT

Louie C. Camino, Editor

STILL CORY'S BABY. Kris Aquino, now a mom herself, with Mommy Cory.

I thank God for giving me a remarkable, incomparable and devoted mom

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

I HOSTED the Quiz Bee for Poveda high school students earlier today and they gave me two books as part of their thank you gift. I'm particularly enjoying the Kerygma-published "You Can Make Your Life Beautiful" by **Bo Sanchez.**

In one of his essays, Bo reminds us how important it is to "say thank you often." In it he relates how he enjoyed being sick when he was a kid, not only because he got to skip class, but more because his mom would fuss over him. He wrote that he could never recall an instance when his mom was too tired to care for him.

I must say that I share his sentiments. I remember how "important" I felt when I was four years old and I was severely bitten by our dog. A major artery in my thigh just escaped being severed. This was also the time that my dad had just ended his 40-day hunger strike.

I needed more than 70 stitches to sew up my leg, and they feared I wouldn't be able to walk properly again. I underwent many anti-rabies injections, once a day for 21 days if memory serves me right.

Difficult

In the past, my mom has spoken about this time of her life as being one of the most difficult. Her husband was confined at the Veterans' Hospital fighting for his life, and her daughter was confined at the FEU Hospital also fighting for hers.

But my mom never left my side—from the time she found me being attacked by our dog who had run into the garden while I was there looking for my mom, all through the hospital ride where she wrapped me in beach blankets because I was bleeding so profusely, to the time I was being wheeled into the operating room, and all throughout my hospital confinement.

Contrary to what experts say, shock doesn't fully erase your memories. In fact I have vivid recollections of this traumatic experience, even if it happened when I was so young.

I contracted a very severe case of mumps during the 1978 Batasang Pambansa elections. I was campaigning for my dad who was still being held captive in Fort Bonifacio. My mom had to literally cover my body in ice to bring down my fever which went higher than 41 degrees Celsius.

I was having convulsions and I was hallucinating. I even remember that I thought there were "rabbits and so many furry animals" jumping around my room. I thought that the pillow beside me was a real live pinkish-white pig.

Tense days and nights

Again, despite the hectic campaign, my mom didn't leave me, not until my fever had finally gone down after several tense days and nights.

After that campaign, from being robust, I became a sickly child. My mom patiently brought me to my numerous visits to the pediatrician. She made sure I took all my antibiotics and mega doses of vitamins for nearly three months.

There wasn't a single dental appointment that my mom didn't accompany me to. I had ugly, almost black baby teeth, and it was such torture for me to have them pulled to make way for my permanent teeth. Every visit to the dentist would be a fight. I'd wail hysterically until I exasperated my mom. Yet, she was always there.

Coming home from Boston, I realized because of the emotional trauma of losing my dad, everyday at International School for nearly a month, I'd be crying. I couldn't get through my classes without breaking down.

The vice principal, Mrs. Tantoco, would keep me in her office, call up my mom, and my mom would come to school and pick me up. My mom was there to embrace me and take me home, never mind that she herself was going through so much worse.

Spine and neck

When she was president and I infamously fell off the stage in Araneta Coliseum, my mom was there immediately at Makati Medical Center to hold my hand and watch over me while they were checking that my spine and neck were okay via the CT Scan.

A couple of years after, when I inadvertently took a menstrual cramps pain reliever that had aspirin which I'm very allergic to, my mom rushed to Makati Med. again, straight from the airport after a provincial sortie.

My face and neck had swollen to elephant man proportions. I was having trouble breathing and the doctors were afraid they might need to do a tracheotomy on me to clear my throat's passage way.

My sister **Viel** who was the first to arrive in the E.R. didn't want to sign the release form because she said that if I ever recovered, I might not forgive her for allowing them to put a big, visible hole in my throat. She was better off leaving the task to our mom. Again my mom held my hand and gave me words of comfort while they were putting in the I.V. that would load my body with powerful antihistamines to combat the severe allergic reaction.

Rosary

Last year when **Josh** had his accident, it was my mom who was first in the E.R., this time at St. Luke's. As soon as I arrived, in near hysterics, my mom embraced me and gave me her Rosary from Sr. Lucia of Fatima to hold on to for strength.

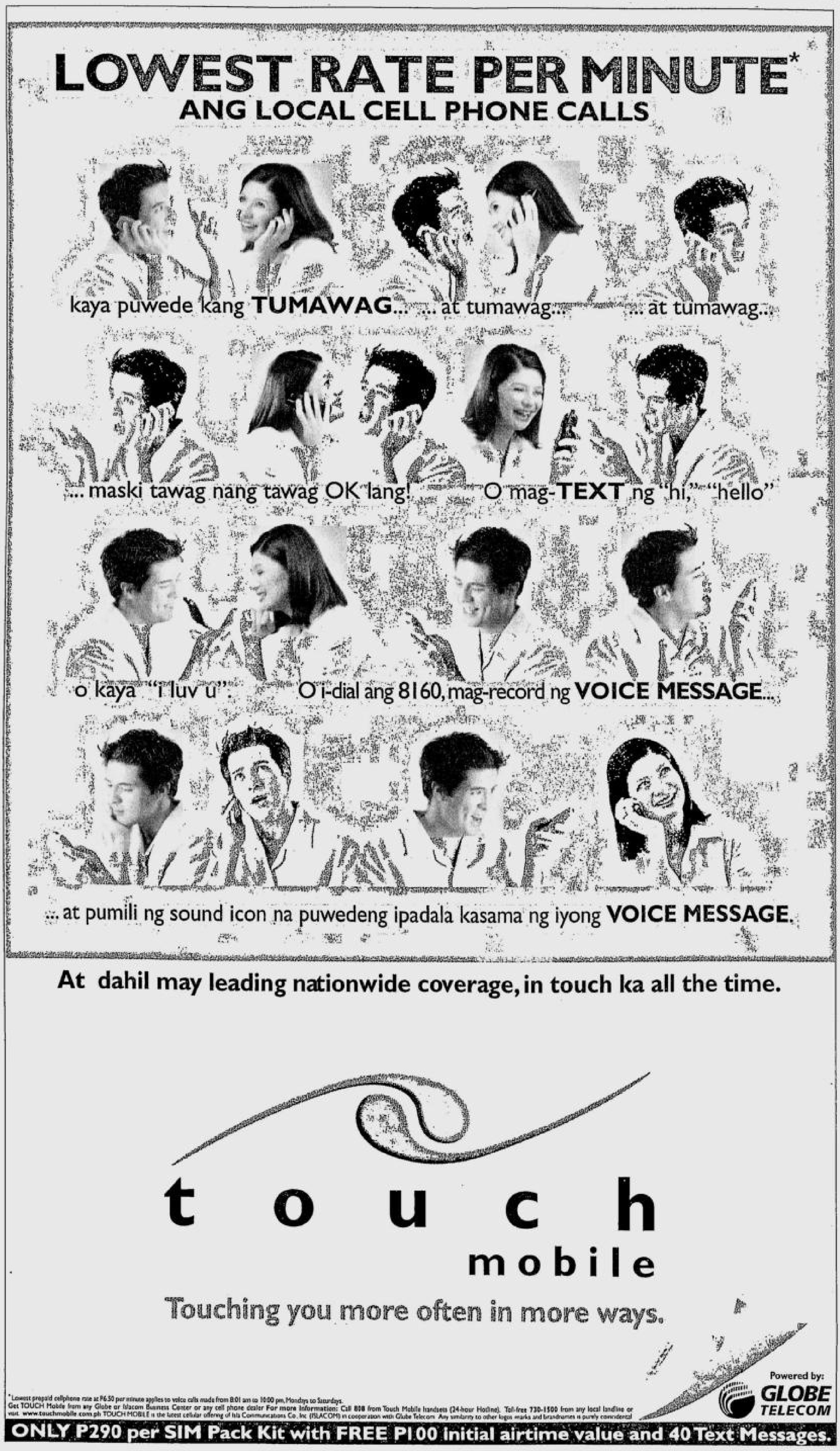
When after a week Josh's leg gushed more than a liter of blood, it was again my mom who was there while the blood was pouring out, holding towels to stem the flow.

And tonight, she was the last one to call me on the phone to check that I was okay, and to make sure that I wouldn't be moving around anymore, but staying put and keeping my foot elevated. You see, while others have sports-related injuries, I got a shopping-related injury.

I was trying on outfits that I'd wear for my birthday celebration on "The Buzz" when I miscalculated where my foot was, and the extent that the solid steel and glass fitting room door would open inwards. The door banged into my foot, lacerating the skin on the fourth toe of my left foot. It was bleeding a lot and I could barely walk on the foot, so again I had to make a trip to the E.R. of Makati Med.

I called my mom on the way to the E.R.,

I THANK/A29



LOWEST RATE PER MINUTE*
ANG LOCAL CELL PHONE CALLS

kaya puwede kang TUMAWAG... ...at tumawag... ...at tumawag...

...maski tawag nang tawag OK lang! O mag-TEXT ng "hi," "hello"

o kaya "I luv u". O i-dial ang 8160, mag-record ng VOICE MESSAGE...

...at pumili ng sound icon na puwedeng ipadala kasama ng iyong VOICE MESSAGE.

At dahil may leading nationwide coverage, in touch ka all the time.

touch mobile

Touching you more often in more ways.

Powered by: GLOBE TELECOM

*Lowest prepaid cellphone rate at P6.50 per minute applies to voice calls made from 8:01 am to 10:00 pm, Mondays to Saturdays.
Get TOUCH Mobile from any Globe or Islacom Business Center or any cell phone dealer For more Information: Call 808 from Touch Mobile handsets (24-hour Hotline). Toll-free 730-1500 from any local landline or visit www.touchmobile.com.ph TOUCH MOBILE is the latest cellular offering of Isla Communications Co., Inc (ISLACOM) in cooperation with Globe Telecom. Any similarity to other logos marks and brandnames is purely coincidental

ONLY P290 per SIM Pack Kit with FREE P100 initial airtime value and 40 Text Messages.

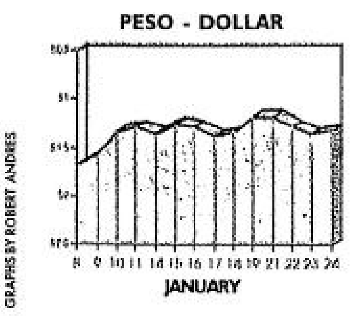
BUSINESS
Raul O. Marcelo, Editor ■ Corrie S. Narisma, Assistant Editor

Register your Web Address in 5 minutes!
www.dot.PH
The Official Domain Registry of the Philippines

Gov't eyes IPO in sale of Malampaya

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱51.32 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Jan. 24, 2002

¥134.42 = $1
As of 5 p.m., Jan. 24, 2002

GOLD: $278.80/279.30
per ounce Hong Kong,
Jan. 24, 2002

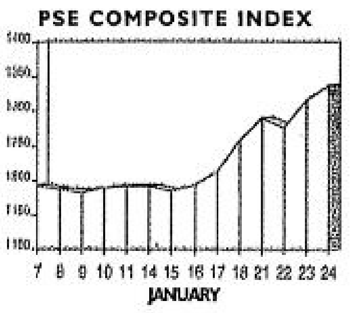
STOCK MARKET

Shares end up on recovery hopes

STOCKS closed higher yesterday, setting a new five-month high, as foreign buying continued to buoy the market, inspired by hopes of an economic turnaround this year, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index was up 22.25 points, or 1.7 percent, at 1,339.64, its highest closing level since it ended at 1,341.56 on Aug. 2, 2001. The index rose 3.1 percent Wednesday.

Dealers said the arrival of US troops to help the local military crush the Abu Sayyaf Muslim rebel group also has boosted sentiment. *AP*



(See stock market report on Page B4)

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE GOVERNMENT is considering the sale of state-owned PNOC Exploration Corp.'s 10-percent interest in the Malampaya natural gas project through an initial public offering in order to raise revenue and boost the stock market.

Speaking before members of the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said he had already started discussions with Energy Secretary Vincent Perez on the possible IPO.

"I would urge him about the possibility of doing an IPO on the 10 percent of PNOC as a pure play only," Camacho said.

Camacho was reacting to a broker's appeal that there be more public participation in developing the local stock market by requiring companies to list on the exchange.

In an interview with reporters, Camacho explained that the IPO could be done by having PNOC-EC spin off its 10-percent interest in the Malampaya project into a wholly owned special-purpose company. PNCO-EC, which itself is listed at the PSE, could then sell shares in the special-purpose company to the public through an IPO.

Camacho

The IPO, if it were to push through, would be part of the program of the government to raise P5 billion in privatization proceeds this year.

The Malampaya gas project is a 45-45 percent joint venture between international oil giants Texaco and Shell, with PNOC-EC holding the balance.

Meanwhile, Camacho also told PSE broker-dealers to prod Shell and Caltex to list their shares here.

Under the oil deregulation law, both companies should have listed by February last year but the government decided to hold off requiring the two firms to list until the stock market has improved.

Chinoy businessmen vow to invest more

By Abigail L. Ho

THE FEDERATION of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry yesterday committed that its members would continue to infuse more capital into the Philippines this year.

"Federation members insist that the Philippines is our country. We work here, we die here, so we invest here," FFCCCII trade and industry committee chair Francis Chua said.

He added that the local economy had already begun to pick up from the slump brought by the Sept. 11 terrorist attack in the United States.

Chua cited the stock market's recovery from the September lows of below the 1,000-point mark as well as the rise in the peso's value against the dollar.

"The stock market had gone up, the highest since Sept. 11. The peso is strong. We're very positive and upbeat. The prospect for the future is bright," he said.

One of the FFCCCII's projects—the Buy Pinoy Movement—also seeks to boost the domestic economy by encouraging Filipinos to patronize local goods as well to develop the local industry to be more globally competitive.

He said the federation formed a Buy Pinoy steering committee last week that included the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Makati Business Club.

Chua said this committee would have the task of "helping the government understand the problems of the businesses, such as power, infrastructure, labor. We want to help all the industries by solving the problems they face. With these problems solved, there will be more investments, more money will come in."

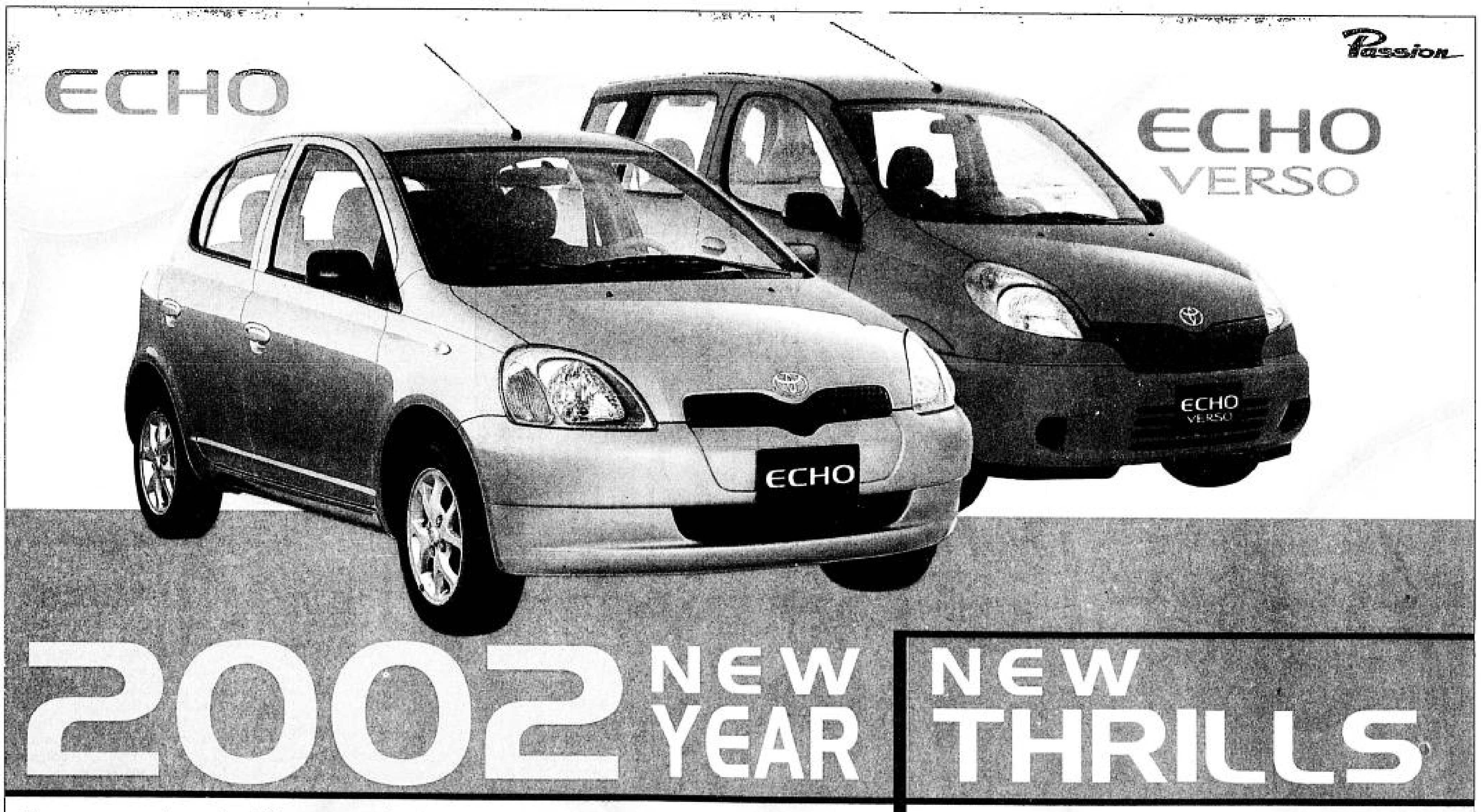
Aside from Buy Pinoy, the FFCCCII would also be engaging in two agricultural projects worth P1 billion. These are the hybrid rice, which Chua said would boost the country's rice production by as much as 250 percent to 300 percent, and the "biodegradable project."

Funding for this will be internally generated, with some help from other entities willing to help.

"Everybody will be asked to chip in. The federation can't do it alone," he said.

Chua said there would be

CHINOY/B4



2002 NEW YEAR NEW THRILLS

Hurry up and make this year a truly memorable one for you. Get yourself a Toyota Echo Hatchback or Echo Verso and enjoy the following treats:

Super Savings ₱121,056 Savings for Echo Verso M/T at 20% Down payment/48 months scheme

Lower Than Zero Interest Deal •Less than Zero Interest for 12 months scheme at 20% Down payment and 24 months scheme at 50% Down payment*

Low Down Deal •Only ₱77,800 Low Down payment for the Echo Hatchback M/T

Low Monthly Deal •As low as ₱7,500 Monthly Amortization for Echo Hatchback M/T at 50% Down payment/48 months scheme

Value For Money •Fuel Economy with the revolutionary VVT-i Engine (1.3 liter for the Echo and 1.5 liter for the Echo Verso) •Spacious Interiors - Storage & space that's surprisingly large for its size •Environment-friendly

* For all Echo Hatchback models: 12 months scheme at 20% Down payment and 18 months scheme starting at 40% Down payment for Echo Verso

ECHO HB M/T [SRP ₱639,000]

LOW MONTHLY SCHEME

%DP	DP Amt.	12	18	24	36	48
20%	127,800	41,140	28,555	22,362	15,988	12,836
30%	191,700	35,672	24,599	19,264	13,773	11,057
40%	255,600	29,935	20,643	16,165	11,557	9,279
50%	319,500	24,198	16,686	13,067	9,342	7,500

LOW DOWNPAYMENT SCHEME

%DP	Low DP	12	18	24	36	48
20%	77,800	45,899	31,651	24,786	17,721	14,227
30%	141,700	40,162	27,695	21,688	15,506	12,449
40%	205,600	34,424	23,738	18,590	13,291	10,670
50%	269,500	28,687	19,782	15,491	11,076	8,892

Subject to bank approval METROBANK PSBank RCBC PHILAM SAVINGS BANK

HURRY, stocks are limited! Promo runs from
January 6 - January 31, 2002

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0024, Series of 2002

TOYOTA

TOYOTA ALABANG, INC., Alabang-Zapote Rd. cor. Concha Cruz Drive 800-0801 to 32 / 802-1991 TOYOTA BACOLOD CITY, Gardenville Subdivision, Araneta St., Bacolod City (034) 444-1811 to 13 TOYOTA BAGUIO CITY, Bokawkan Road cor. Aguila St., Baguio City (074) 300-3273 to 74 / (074) 443-6778 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK, INC., EDSA cor. Vicente Ang & Gen. Evangelista Sts., Kalookan City 366-8901 to 06 / 364-1547 to 50 / 364-4071 to 75 TOYOTA BALINTAWAK-NORTH, 1010 Epifanio De Los Santos Ave. (EDSA), Quezon City 927-7215 / 17 / 30 / 39 / 927-7242 / 44 / 48 / 52 / 927-7257 / 62 / 65 / 927-7268 / 69 TOYOTA BATANGAS CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Barangay Balagtas, Batangas City (043) 723-7386 TOYOTA BEL-AIR, INC., 325 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City 810-2222 / 819-7481 to 86 / 844-7944 / 844-8472 TOYOTA CABANATUAN CITY, INC. Km. 118 Maharlika Highway, Daang Sarile, Cabanatuan City (044) 463-6481 to 87 TOYOTA CAGAYAN DE ORO, INC., Km. 3 National Highway, Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City (08822) 735-770 / 791 / 846 / (088) 858-9954 TOYOTA CEBU CITY, INC., 34 M.J. Cuenco St., Cebu City (032) 253-1161 TOYOTA CEBU-MANDAUE, Tabok, Mandaue City (032) 345-8670 TOYOTA COMMONWEALTH, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City 952-1021 to 27 TOYOTA CUBAO, INC., 926 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City 911-0651 to 63 TOYOTA DAGUPAN CITY, INC., Diversion Road, Barangay San Miguel, Calasiao, Pangasinan (075) 517-2026 to 28 / (075) 522-6771 / 6734 TOYOTA DAVAO CITY, INC., Km. 6 Lanang, Davao City (082) 234-0998 / (082) 234-2994 / (082) 234-8640 TOYOTA ILOILO CITY, INC., Gran Plains Subd., Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 320-6115 to 119 TOYOTA MANILA BAY CORP., Roxas Boulevard cor. EDSA Extension, Pasay City 832-3408 to 10 / 832-3432 to 34 / 832-3384 / 832-3437 TOYOTA MARIKINA SERVICE STATION, Brgy. Sto. Niño, Sumulong Highway cor. Toyota Ave., Marikina City 933-8631 to 34 / 682-2684 TOYOTA OTIS, INC., 1770 Paz M. Guazon St., Paco, Manila 564-1811 to 20 TOYOTA PASONG TAMO, INC., 2292 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City 893-8084 TOYOTA QUEZON AVENUE, INC., 728 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City 712-5001 to 06 TOYOTA SHAW, INC. 411 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City 727-0201 to 24 TOYOTA SHAW-ORTIGAS, 124 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City 671-9854 to 64

Taiwanese firm barred from importing cement

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE BUREAU of Customs has barred TCC Cement Corp., the biggest cement importer in the Philippines, from further importation after finding the company liable for falsification of documents and misdeclaration.

In a directive signed by BOC legal service director Gallant D. Soriano, the BOC revoked TCC's accreditation with the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service. A company has to get CIIS accreditation before shipping in goods from abroad.

The BOC also asked TCC to pay more than P4 million in back taxes before releasing the firm's import shipments that were confiscated by government agents. The BOC will also file criminal charges against TCC representatives Randy Simon and Francisco Billones who would be banned from transacting any business with the BOC.

BOC Commissioner Titus Villanueva had ordered an investigation on TCC shipments following field reports on discrepancies in its reports. The probers said TCC used recycled or tampered entries, bill of lading, and invoices in their imports and that the firm deliberately delayed in filling its entries to simulate fluctuations in the bills of lading and invoices. For example, TCC reported that the landed cost of its products were $39 per metric ton while its real invoice was $45.

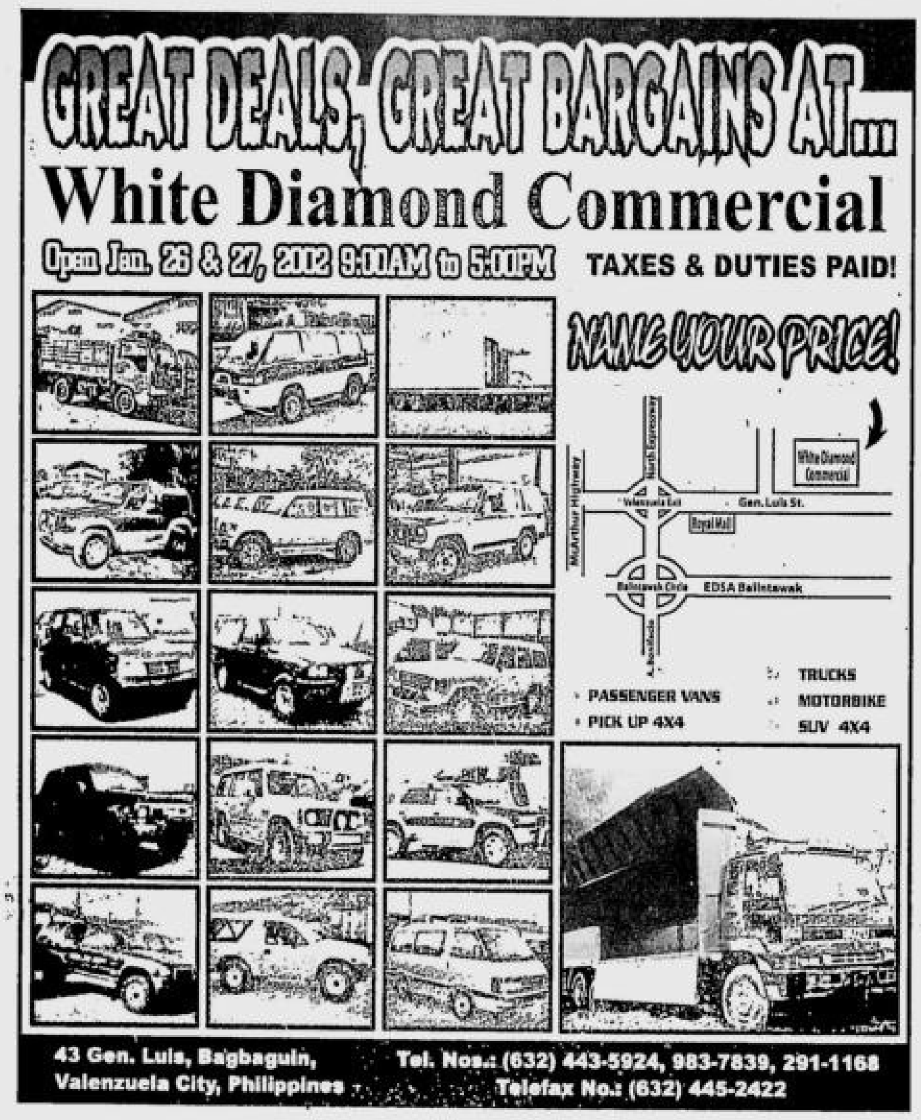
The BOC said TCC documents were filled with fraud as the entries in its import log were assessed at the desired value of the importer.

TCC is a subsidiary of Taiwan Cement Corp. which the Philippine Cement Manufacturers Corp. has blamed for the massive dumping of cement into the country which has pushed industry players on the brink of bankruptcy.

This is the latest blow to Taiwan Cement following the Department of Trade and Industry's decision to impose a provisional duty on cement imports to protect the local industry. The DTI imposed a provisional duty worth P20.60 for every 40-kilogram bag on all cement imports starting November last year after Philcemcor made a commitment to maintain its retail prices between P125 and P135 per bag, a substantial cut from the current price of P145 per bag.

The DTI found a just cause in Philcemcor's petition when imports rose sharply while the share of local brands in the market shrunk, local production slowed down, and the number of dislocated cement industry workers ballooned.

Imports have already cornered 21 percent of the market, domestic cement plants are operating at 50 percent of capacity, and the number of employees has fallen by 21 percent since last year.


GREAT DEALS, GREAT BARGAINS AT...
White Diamond Commercial
Open Jan. 26 & 27, 2002 9:00AM to 5:00PM TAXES & DUTIES PAID!
NAME YOUR PRICE!
- PASSENGER VANS
- PICK UP 4X4
- TRUCKS
- MOTORBIKE
- SUV 4X4
43 Gen. Luis, Bagbaguin, Valenzuela City, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (632) 443-5924, 983-7839, 291-1168
Telefax No.: (632) 445-2422

Tan willing to discuss air row with Gokongwei

By Abigail L. Ho

BEER and tobacco magnate Lucio Tan said yesterday he was willing to settle with fellow taipan John Gokongwei Jr. a dispute involving their airlines, although he insisted "there's really nothing to talk about."

"If he approaches me, we can talk, but there's really nothing to talk about," Tan told the INQUIRER when asked about his position regarding a row between Philippine Airlines Inc. and Cebu Pacific Air.

Tan is majority owner of PAL while Gokongwei controls Cebu Pacific.

PAL and Cebu Pacific have been fighting over four new weekly flights allowed by the South Korean government.

In response to Tan's statement, Cebu Pacific maintained a hard-line stance on the issue.

"What PAL wants is a completely lopsided playing field," it said. "It wants to have 15 flights weekly to South Korea and leave us only one, which means a passenger who flies with us on a Monday will have to wait the following week to come home."

Cebu Pacific added that "a ratio of 13 weekly frequencies against three for us is a David and Goliath affair, but Cebu Pacific will take on PAL on these terms."

In his interview with the INQUIRER, Tan described Gokongwei as a "friendly competitor" but declined to comment further on the PAL-Cebu Pacific rivalry.

The CAB awarded Cebu Pacific three weekly flights to South Korea on Dec. 19.

CORDLESS but not COLORLESS
XC800
Color Series
Cordless Phones
FEATURES: Multi-channel AutoScan • True Compander Circuitry • 10-Memory dialing • 14-day Long life battery • Page/Find feature • Desk or Wall mountable • Call waiting compatible • Hearing aid compatible
Available in the following 2-tone colors:
SILVER, METALLIC GREEN, METALLIC BLUE & BURGUNDY
Original colors: CHARCOAL GREY & IVORY WHITE
FREE One Classy BALL PEN in 4 different colors or One MOVIE PASS (Premiere seat) for every purchase of the XC800 Color series Cordless phone.
Offer good from Dec. 1, 2001 to Feb. 15, 2002. Get one now!
Uniden
Designed for the way you communicate
Abenson • SM Appliance Center • Electroworld • Automatic Centre • Sogo Home & Office Center • Anson Emporium • Western Marketing • Columbia Computer Superstore • Discovery Computer Superstore • Challenger Computer Superstore • Robinsons-Abenson Appliance • Compex Sales • PC Office • Ventures Hardware • Office 1 Superstore
A COLORFUL GIFT THIS CHINESE NEW YEAR & VALENTINE'S DAY
Per DTI-NCR permit # 4104 series of 2001

Equitable to issue $100M in IOUs

EQUITABLE PCIBank is taking the alternative "Tier 2" route in beefing up its capital base with its plan to raise as much as P5 billion or roughly $100 million from the issuance of IOUs.

E-PCIbank had submitted its application to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas for the issuance of long-term debt instruments, the second universal bank to take the Tier 2 route after Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.

Metrobank earlier inked a $100-million deal with Dunmore Assets Ltd. for the latter's acquisition of 10-year debt papers under the Tier 2 capital mode.

The Tier 2 capital route allows banks to meet their capital base requirements through quasi-equity funds that do not dilute the equity holdings of existing shareholders. Investors in these IOUs have no voting rights but they get higher dividends compared with those of the regular stockholders.

This gives banks a viable option to the traditional Tier 1 capital-raising scheme of selling shares of stocks to the public, especially in times when the stock market is in a long depression and investors are avoiding bank counters like the plague.

Let's strengthen labor conciliation

LABOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Josephus B. Jimenez

IF there is a semblance of industrial peace in the country today, it is largely due to the untiring efforts of many unsung heroes in the National Conciliation and Mediation Board. If not for the competence, dedication and single-mindedness of the conciliators, mediators, voluntary arbitrators and regional directors of the NCMB, the political turbulence facing the nation today would have been substantially exacerbated.

Hundreds of strike notices and petitions for preventive mediations could have escalated into full-blown strikes and lockouts if not for the timely, skillful and focused interventions by the regional branches of the NCMB. Thousands of workers would have lost their jobs and scores of establishments could have opted to close shop or reduce the number of working days if not for the efficiency of conciliation and mediation as the preferred modes of labor dispute settlement in this jurisdiction.

The vision for conciliation

The great visionary who conceived the constitutional policy that provides for non-adversarial modes of dispute settlement is no other than Sen. Blas F. Ople, the father of the Labor Code and the longest-serving labor secretary in the country. Being a non-lawyer and having been immersed for a long time in the ILO (International Labor Organization), where global perspectives on alternative dispute settlements are studied and debated, Ople has seen the tremendous potentials of conciliation and mediation to solve the mounting problems that beset the Philippine industrial relations.

In the Constitutional Convention of 1986 where Ople was a dominant figure as a commissioner, they approved *en toto* Ople's proposal to enshrine conciliation, mediation and voluntary arbitration as the preferred modes for labor dispute settlement. Sen. Ernesto Herrera authored Republic Act No. 6715, which put into operation these constitutional policies. Thus, we have now a clear and explicit mandate in the fundamental law to push for these non-adversarial, less legalistic and more expeditious mechanisms.

Pillars of conciliation

The leading pillars of conciliation, mediation and voluntary arbitration are former Labor Undersecretary Inciong, BLR Director Noriel, Undersecretary Castro and the inseparable duo of Labor Secretary Laguesma and NCMB Administrator Magsalin. These men worked hard to give impetus to these non-traditional approaches. The present stature of conciliation and mediation as the most effective way to promote industrial peace, is certainly a result of the long and hard work of men who believed in Ople's vision.

Today's pillars of conciliation include the triumvirate of Atty. Jong Olalia, Rey Ubaldo and Gilbert Pimentel. These gentlemen are trusted by Secretary Pat Sto. Tomas and Undersecretary Art Brion to push further the frontiers of conciliation, mediation and voluntary arbitration as well as to promote the LMCs and the grievance machinery as untapped sources of solutions to the country's industrial relations problems.

The workhorses of conciliation

The real workhorses of conciliation are the regional directors and the field conciliators. They are the foot soldiers who fight a battle everyday, slaying the dragons of unfair labor practices, illegal strikes, violations of CBAs and the massacre of jobs. These tireless peacemakers continue to carry the flag of industrial peace under heavy fire and extreme difficulties in the exacting terrain of industrial relations.

People like Nitoy Geonzon of Tacloban who covers Region 8 with conciliators Carmina and Hazel. They boldly face the various challenges undaunted by lack of resources and the formidable pressures that overwhelm them. Like Dick Yosores of Caraga, Pilar Tamboboy of Davao, Juanito Deijia of Region 3 and Atty. Joey Velasco of Region 4. Of course, the one with the most number of cases is NCR Director Pol de Jesus and his squad of stout-hearted conciliators.

Problems in conciliation

Unlike the NLRC, which is vested with coercive powers, which can order bailiff, sheriffs and an army of arbitration associates, stenographers and clerks, the conciliators work alone. They write their minutes, summarize their analysis of cases and face the parties alone, working selflessly until the wee hours in the evening and even until morning.

They work in the office, in the picket lines, under the trees, inside bodegas, sometimes in hotel lobbies and restaurants. *El sitio nada importa*, the venue doesn't matter. The conciliators' passions go on unabated, even if they are not compensated well for their work, even if their working conditions are not at par with those of the DOLE big bosses.

Empower the NCMB

If we are really sincere in declaring that conciliation is preferred over strikes, that voluntary arbitration is better than compulsory arbitration, then we propose that the budget of the NCMB should be triple if not quadruple the budget of the NLRC. Let us put our money where our biases are. The salary of the NCMB administrator should be at par with the NLRC chair, that of the deputy administrator, with the commissioners.

We propose that the conciliators should at least have the same salary level as that of the labor arbiters and voluntary arbitrators should receive a regular subsidy per case so that no voluntary arbitration fee will be collected from the parties. The NCMB should have its own sheriffs, stenographers, case analysts and researchers. The offices of conciliation and arbitration should be upgraded. The law creating the NCMB should be amended to give more powers to this very effective agency.

Ople's dream is largely unrealized because today, there is more stress on overseas employment. As a former labor arbiter and conciliator as well, I call on my former comrades in the DOLE to reexamine their paradigms and take a second hard look at the NCMB.

(For comments, you can reach the writer at the following e-mail address: josephus.-jimenez@pcppi.com.ph)

Sagittarius claims right over mine area

By Christine A. Gaylican

SAGITTARIUS Mines claimed it has the legal right to explore a copper mining area in Tampakan, South Cotabato.

In a letter to Executive Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, the company also dismissed as baseless the issues raised by Lepanto Consolidated Mining Co. against Sagittarius' claim over the mining area.

The letter was in response to Lepanto's opposition to a Department of Environment and Natural Resources' decision awarding the Tampakan copper mining contract to Sagittarius.

The contract grants Sagittarius the exclusive right to undertake the exploration, development and exploitation of mineral resources in the contract area.

Lepanto contested the decision in Malacañang, saying it was made without due process and despite Lepanto's existing takeover deal with Australian Mining giant WMC Resources, the former claim owner of the said copper mining area.

In the letter to Secretary Romulo, Sagittarius Mines executive director Mario C.V. Jalandoni said that the Tampakan companies (now under the Sagittarius Mines consortium) have the right of first refusal to match the terms and conditions of WMC in selling or assigning its interest.

Aside from holding a significant share in the mining project, Jalandoni claimed that Sagittarius had forged a prior agreement with Western Mining giving the local company the right of first refusal and the opportunity to match the offers of interested parties in case WMC abandons the project.

He said Lepanto knew all along that the Tampakan group has the right of first refusal but it still went to the Mines and GeoSciences Bureau to question the sale to Sagittarius.

"WMCRI entered into a sale and purchase agreement with Lepanto on the clear and specific condition that the said agreement will be subject to the right of first refusal by the Tampakan companies pursuant to Clause 10.3 of the Tampakan Option Agreement," Jalandoni said.

Jalandoni said that on Sept. 29, 2001,Tampakan/Sagittarius exercised its right of first refusal rendering "the July 12 agreement (sale to Lepanto) ineffective, expired, null and void by its own provisions and by operation of the law."

Transfer of ₱14-B PNB debts to PDIC approved

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE POLICY-MAKING Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has approved the transfer of P13.9 billion worth of Philippine National Bank debts to Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said the transfer effectively shifted the claim of the central bank from PNB to the state-owned bank insurer. The move is in line with the government's strategy to consolidate the PNB debt burden in PDIC to facilitate the conversion of the bank's debts into equity.

The BSP official stressed, however, that the rehabilitation of the bank would still be tackled by PNB under a program to be approved and monitored by the central bank.

The central bank and PDIC have yet to sign an agreement that would formalize the transfer of the P13.9-billion PNB loans.

Originally, PNB had tapped an emergency loan of P15 billion from the BSP and P10 billion from PDIC in October 2000 to ease a liquidity problem caused by heavy withdrawals.

Of the total, the bank had paid only P1.1 billion to the BSP, leaving the remaining P23.9 billion the subject of conversion and restructuring plan detailed in a memorandum of agreement to be signed on Feb. 8 by the government and PNB majority owner Lucio Tan.

Of the remaining PNB debts to the government, P7.8 billion would be converted into equity in the bank, P10 billion would be used to offset government advances from PNB, and the remaining P6.1 billion would be restructured within a 10-year period.

The portion to be converted into equity would increase the government's stake in PNB to 44.98 percent from 16 percent. Tan's ownership would be diluted from 68 percent to 44.98 percent.

PNB president and CEO Feliciano Miranda Jr. yesterday commented that government assistance to PNB was essentially a judgment call with public interest being the foremost consideration. Government is committed to rehabilitate PNB to protect its depositors and creditors, he said.

Miranda said that a failure of a major bank "may cause other banks to fail leading to disruptions and loss of confidence in the safety and soundness of then banking system."

In a statement, Miranda said the PNB's impact to the banking system was considerable given its size and scope.

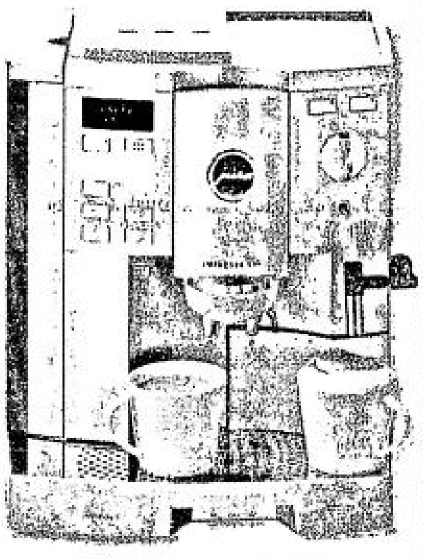
He also pointed out that the government had a moral obligation to rehabilitate PNB because its losses came from bad loans granted when the government managed the bank.

METRONET
Personal 56k Flat Rate
only P 1,980 per month
Call us: 721-0280
721-0269
721-5091
www.metro.net.ph
com / net / org / biz / info
domains only P800/yr

GOOD INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY
Do you want to earn P2M++ this summer?
A new classy resort is for rent this summer with **sure profit & guaranteed income**. We need an Entrepreneur with a good PR and wants to invest. Resort has good income - ready with captured market.
Call 843-6541 loc. 124 or 132 - Malou

FOR SALE
For immediate turn over fully
equipped and operational
FIRST CLASS RESTAURANT
in prime Ortigas Center
403sqm/ seats 130 pax
CALL 09178192482 / 6332122

MAS PINALAKAS!
24-MONTHS WARRANTY
DRY CHARGED
OUTLAST
Xceed
Additional MUSCLE minus the HASSLE.
LONGEST WARRANTY (24 MONTHS)
• Halos apat (4) ang katapat, SIGURADONG PANALO.
DRY CHARGED
• Hindi basta bago, SIGURADONG BAGO.
Also Available: OUTLAST
MAINTENANCE FREE • SUPER PREMIUM • PREMIUM
www.outlastbattery.com
AVAILABLE AT ALL OUTLAST BATTERY DEALERS NATIONWIDE

jura OF SWITZERLAND
FOR THE COFFEE CONNOISSEUR
THE KING OF COFFEE ESPRESSO AND CAPPUCCINO IS NOW HERE!
Made for Professionals by Professionals
FULLY AUTOMATIC "Bean-to-Cup" ESPRESSO AND CAPPUCCINO MACHINE

IMPRESSA S90
(OTHER MODELS AVAILABLE)
Sole Importer and Distributor:
R.URRA PHILIPPINES, INC.
Grd. Flr. Ferros Bel-Air Tower
#30 Polaris cor. Durban Sts.
Bel-Air, Makati City
Telephone : 896-6784/896-0534
Fax : 890-9196 E-mail : rucophil@epic.net

HELP!

I'M LOSING HAIR!

As soon as you're experiencing excessive thinning, receding, or falling hair, come to **Svenson International** and get expert help for your hair-loss problem.

THE REAL CULPRIT OF HAIR LOSS:
Dihydrotestosterone (DHT) is a converted hormone that is proven to be the main culprit of hair loss. DHT builds up in the hair follicles causing thinner and weaker strands until nothing regrows. Svenson's **Tricho-DHT Inhibitor** is the perfect solution to counteract this destructive process. Combined with this treatment, Svenson can also offer **Laser Hair Cell Accelerator**. A special soft laser is applied directly on the scalp and acts like a light vitamin to increase the amount of hair cells. It helps to prolong the life of these cells so you can get longer, stronger-growing hair. **When combined, these treatments are proven to combat hair loss and accelerate the process of hair regrowth.**

If you're helpless over your hair-loss problem, then now is the time to come to Svenson International: the professional hair and scalp clinic.

Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

MAKATI	QUEZON CITY	BINONDO	ALABANG	CEBU
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.	Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue	Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmariñas St.	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd	Keppel Centre, Cebu City
817-2260 817-2194	372-6631 372-6632	243-0128 244-8913	842-1389 842-4181	032-2340851 032-2340853

MON.- FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)

Pioneer sound.vision.soul

Standing Room Only
So what?

No need to move out of your sofa because nothing will move you out of the house with a Pioneer Home Theater System.
Pioneer VS800DVD and Plasma Display
- *3-DISC DVD/SVCD/VCD/CD MINI HI-FI SYSTEM*
- *DTS/Dolby Digital/Dolby Pro-logic Surround*
- *6-speaker system, video noise reduction*

For inquiries: Call Tel. no. 852-0033; Fax: 851-3428; Email: mgme@compass.com.ph or visit us at www.pioneer.com.sg

Finance chief backs SEC move to build up brokerages' capital

By Elena R. Torrijos

FINANCE Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said yesterday that he supported the Securities and Exchange Commission's decision to compel stockbrokers to raise their capital.

"I support the general direction of increasing the capitalization of brokers as with any industry," Camacho told stockbrokers in a speech.

"I believe that for us to grow, a lot of it will be because of confidence and to the extent of showing that we have strong players," he added.

The SEC has yet to set a new minimum capital requirement.

The commission earlier suspended an order that required stockbrokerages to maintain a minimum capital of P100 million for them to continue trading in stocks. Stockbrokers had complained that this level was too steep.

SEC Chair Lilia Bautista has disclosed that foreign brokerages favored a P50-million minimum capital requirement while their local counterparts wanted it set at P10 million.

Existing rules allow stockbrokers to do business with a P5-million capital.

The net capital requirement of P5 million is enough to guarantee capital adequacy, Eagle Equities Inc. president Joey Roxas said in a letter to the SEC.

Roxas said a review and analysis of the formula for net capital showed that with a net capital of P5 million, a stockbrokerage would be able to easily meet all its obligations.

He suggested a capitalization based on a 100-to-1 ratio and an absolute minimum paid up capital of P10 million. This meant that for every P1 million worth of capital, brokers should be able to trade P100 million a year.

Raising the minimum capital requirement that stockbrokerages must meet will only lead to job losses at a time when the government is promoting job creation, Roxas warned.

"Only around 20 broker/dealers have a paid up capital of P100 million and above. The remaining 130 broker/dealers will be forced to close shop causing an estimated 1300 people to lose their jobs," he said.

PNOC unit revives plans to drill in Cotabato basin

By Ronnel W. Domingo

PHILIPPINE National Oil Co.'s exploration arm will push through with its plan to drill an exploratory well in the Cotabato basin.

PNOC Exploration Corp. had planned to start drilling in the area to explore prospective natural gas fields last year. However, the plan was shelved due to security problems in the region.

The company recently revived the plan and this time, it intended to implement the project with sister firm PNOC Energy Development Corp.

PNOC-EDC chair Sergio Apostol said the project was scheduled to start in June or July this year.

Apostol said the project forms part of efforts to develop and harness other possible natural gas reserves in the country aside from that in Malampaya.

He added that the concerned PNOC units would also search for oil, which can be found under a proven gas reserve.

This was also the case in Malampaya where Shell Philippines Exploration BV found an oil reserve of about 57 million barrels beneath the 2.7 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The PNOC subsidiaries are expected to shell out P220 million for the offshore drilling project in Cotabato.

PNOC-EC's project is hoped to prove the presence of 60 billion cubic feet of natural gas in that field.

In a related development, Energy Secretary Vicente Perez Jr. said earlier that starting this year, compressed natural gas-powered vehicles would provide shuttle service to government employees in Metro Manila.

Perez explained that this was part of efforts to develop other uses of natural gas aside from power generation.

The energy department recently introduced the country's first bus that runs solely on natural gas.

Electronics exports seen to grow by 15% this year

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE SEMICONDUCTOR and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc. (Seipi) is upbeat on the investment and export prospects of the Philippine electronics industry this year.

Seipi executive director Ernie B. Santiago said the group is forecasting a 10- to 15-percent increase in both electronics exports and investments in the sector this year due to the anticipated improvement in the political environment.

"We expect investors to increase their presence in the country because the climate is improving and this is much better than last year," he said.

Despite the country's shortcomings in infrastructure, government policy and security, Santiago said the country's English-speaking and skilled workforce remains a key incentive for businessmen to put their money here.

Seipi's rosy projection contrasts sharply with the Department of Trade and Industry's expectation of flat export growth. The DTI is pessimistic that the country's major export markets—the United States and Japan—will not recover in the second half this year.

Seipi is expecting electronic exports to hit $21 billion last year, down 28.5 percent from $27 billion in 2000. Electronics accounted for roughly 70 percent of the country's total exports. Investments in semiconductor and electronic firms last year totaled $720 million down from $1.24 billion the previous year.

Seipi said the Philippines needed $1 billion in yearly investments in the electronic industry in order meet the projected twin-digit export growth rate in the next two years.

Seipi had urged the government to address the rising costs of doing business in the Philippines, specifically power rates and wages, or else investors would relocate to China.

Chicharon lovers drive fledgling Cebu business

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SUCCESS STORY

FILIPINOS are passionate chicharon lovers. This is why they still patronize the product even if the deep-fried pig's skin still has some hairs stuck or faint numbers written on it, or if some pieces are just too hard or too big to bite.

If Filipinos can bear to eat chicharon despite its unbearable qualities, what more if it is always crispy, bite-size, has consistent taste and is packaged in sanitary pouches? It was with this prospect in mind that Cebuano entrepreneur Eduardo Alegrado put up Alenter Food Inc. in 2000.

Alenter Food chose chicharon as its entry product believing the product had been relegated to the backyard for too long. Alegrado believed it could be improved in appearance, taste, packaging and shelf life to cater not only to Filipinos but also to foreigners. He then proceeded to experiment on different ways to cook chicharon with the help of his cook. His kitchen was his laboratory and after several months of experimentation, "Chicharritos" was born.

ALENTER Food's best sellers

Unlike traditional chicharon makers who use large cast iron kettles, or "kawa," to cook chicharon out of pigskin, Alenter Food put up a modern manufacturing facility. The plant in Mandaue City, Cebu, has modern stainless steel deep fryers, pneumatic skin cutters and stainless steel meat band saws in lieu of hand-held knives. It also houses stainless steel working tables, along with a four-stage vacuum packaging system.

Alegrado knew where improvements should be made in both the production system and the taste of the products because he had been into chicharon making since 1976 under Maria Cristina Foods Inc.

Maria Cristina Foods was a modest backyard family operation that produced, among other things, native sausages, beef tapa and chicharon, although Alegrado back then made chicharon the traditional way.

It was through chicharon that Alegrado was able to send his children to school, and he thought that after 25 years, it was about time to bring chicharon manufacturing to a new level.

Cebuanos immediately patronized the Chicharritos line of chicharon from the time it opened its doors in 2000. People now flock to a small chicharon bar beside the Mandaue plant where they can sit and have a drink while waiting for their orders.

Manila invasion

After ironing out some kinks in Cebu, Chicharritos invaded Manila in July last year with its first outlet at the SM Southmall in Las Piñas. Alenter Food followed this up with three carts at the Robinsons mall in Manila, the SM Megamall and, for a time, at the Glorietta mall in Makati.

The first stand-alone store along Moridel Boulevard, Pasong Tamo Extension, opened on Jan. 23.

Fernando Rivilla, general manager of Alenter Food, says he is confident over the prospects of Chicharritos in Metro Manila because of the different taste and the longer shelf life of the Chicharritos line.

"Chicharritos can stay fresh for as long as three months as long as the package is not yet opened and, we also put a lot of effort into making it bite-size to make it different from the others," Rivilla adds.

Chicharritos come in different flavors and are served as "ready to eat" and "instant" (can be cooked in two minutes). The products also come in either all-rind or bacon and rind (with meat) and in different sizes ranging from 50-gram cones to 500-gram party packs.

"Our plan now is to set up more company-owned outlets and then tap distributors for here and abroad," Rivilla says.

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA & THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT

Evening Sessions
SY 2002 - 2003

BASIC COMPETENCIES
financial modeling
organizational transformation
ethical decision-making
market research
strategic thinking

management professionals with an entrepreneurial mindset for the Asia-Pacific region

PROGRAM DELIVERY
work-study program for non-working participants
individualized career planning process
two-year program with modular sessions
team-based projects with partner corporations and on-going businesses

For inquiries, please call 636-7535, 633-8347 or 637-0912 local 236 and look for Ms. Clarisse Peteza. You may also e-mail us at mscm@uap.edu.ph or visit us at the 6/F APEC Communications Building, UA&P campus, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

Deadline for the submission of applications is on February 28, 2002.

Application fee is P500.00 (non-refundable).

DISCLOSURES

REYNOLDS Philippines Corp. said it was not aware of any new investors who have expressed interest in saving the company from financial troubles. The company added that so far, only Landbank and Asiatrust Bank have given their nod to its debt restructuring plan.

* * *

CITY & Land Developers Inc. said it would launch its new townhouse project in Parañaque City.

* * *

CENTRO Escolar University bought 3.1 million of its shares at P9.50 per share.

* * *

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange said that **Interport Resources Corp.'s** application to list 40 billion common shares to cover its preemptive rights offering has been abandoned after the bourse approved the company's request for the refund of the P528,000 in listing fee it paid. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Thursday, January 24, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	2,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	66	69.5	66	69.5	2,515,800
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	29.5	31	29.5	30.5	1,635,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	202	202	197	201	286,740
Philippine National Bank	65.5	65.5	65	65	23,900
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	13	13	13	13	31,900
Security Bank Corp.	17.25	17.25	17.25	17.25	35,900
Union Bank of the Phil.	17	17.5	16.75	17	521,300
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.24	1.26	1.24	1.24	492,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.32	0.35	0.32	0.35	290,000
Manulife Financial Corp.	1270	1300	1270	1295	2,080
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1020	1035	1015	1030	12,010
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	30	31.5	29.5	31.5	138,400
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.47	0.48	0.45	0.45	4,440,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	670	680	670	675	27,520
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	2,500,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	56,000
Piltel	0.37	0.38	0.35	0.35	8,110,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	10,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	525	530	505	510	259,110
Ivantage Corp.	0.55	0.6	0.55	0.58	530,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.022	0.024	0.022	0.023	449,300,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	24.75	28	24.75	27	239,800
Manila Electric Co. B	38.5	41.5	38.5	41.5	7,043,600
Petron Corp.	2.02	2.04	1.9	1.9	14,235,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	550,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.9	2.95	2.8	2.85	6,436,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	100,000
Lorenzo Shipping Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.29	100,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Alsons Cement Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	30,000
Fortune Cement Corp.	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	20,000
Phil Nat'l Const. Corp.	6.4	6.4	5.8	5.8	49,000
Republic Cement Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	100,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	50,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	539,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	1,008,800
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	25.5	26.5	25.5	26	468,700
RFM Corp.	2.9	3.05	2.9	2.95	10,722,000
San Miguel Corp. A	45	45	44.5	44.5	59,400
San Miguel Corp. B	59	59.5	58.5	58.5	439,500
Universal Robina Corp.	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	30,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.4	0.41	0.4	0.41	140,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.7	0.7	0.67	0.67	110,000
Abacus Con Res & Hdg B	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.71	20,000
Ayala Corp.	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.4	12,774,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.76	1.86	1.74	1.84	2,952,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.86	320,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.53	23,090,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	71,000,000
Baguio Gold Holdings Corp.	1	1	1	1	10,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9	11	9	11	600
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.71	0.74	0.7	0.71	56,590,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	50,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.28	0.32	0.28	0.32	2,140,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.075	0.08	0.075	0.08	1,100,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.29	0.3	0.29	0.29	6,100,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.11	0.11	0.105	0.105	5,300,000
Ever-Gotesco Resources	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	100,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.08	1.12	1.06	1.06	822,000
First Phil. Hldgs. Corp.	30	31.5	30	31.5	1,557,000
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	40,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.17	0.175	0.165	0.165	2,140,000
Ionics Inc.	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.3	44,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.64	1.8	1.64	1.76	1,616,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	5,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	2,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.84	0.86	0.84	0.85	10,200,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	10,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.35	0.37	0.35	0.35	7,180,000
Music Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.29	0.29	5,220,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.22	0.23	0.21	0.21	1,250,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.37	0.38	0.37	0.37	750,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.185	0.19	1,070,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.32	3,990,000
Zeus Holdings Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	20,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Active Alliance Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	50,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	10,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	200,000
Pryce Corp.	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	5,500,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	14	14.25	14	14	108,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.47	0.5	0.47	0.48	3,480,000
Acesite Phils. Hotel Corp.	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	10,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.54	0.61	0.54	0.6	3,800,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	30	32	30	32	955,600
DMCI Holdings Inc.-Pref.	720	720	720	720	100
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.92	1.94	1.84	1.84	256,000
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	660	660	660	660	1,500
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	20,000,000
RFM Corp. - Pref.	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	10,000
PLDT 10% Pref Series Bb	10	10	10	10	2,000
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	191,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.7	11,666,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.26	0.27	2,620,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.53	0.54	0.5	0.5	9,910,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.32	0.33	0.31	0.31	11,930,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.42	2.55	2.42	2.44	22,818,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	2,400,000
City & Land Developers	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	10,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.24	0.26	0.23	0.23	540,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	400,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	600,000
SM Development Corp.	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98	50,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7	7.1	6.9	7	23,709,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.3	0.36	0.28	0.33	360,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	10,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	11,000,000
Benguet Corp. A	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	20,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	20,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.032	0.033	0.03	0.03	11,100,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.17	1,120,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.18	0.23	0.18	0.18	28,840,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	15,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.0038	0.0042	0.0038	0.0042	11,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	0.0038	19,000,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.019	1,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	10,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.25	0.26	0.25	0.26	900,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.02	0.022	0.02	0.02	13,500,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	68,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	8,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	20,000
Pacifica	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	1,000,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.09	0.1	0.09	0.1	1,200,000

CURRENCIES

Jan. 24, 2002

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.128286	1.000000	51.3750
Japan	Yen	0.008392	0.007438	0.3821
United Kingdom	Pound	1.606905	1.424200	73.1683
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.144665	0.128217	6.5871
Switzerland	Franc	0.675377	0.598587	30.7524
Canada	Dollar	0.704519	0.624415	32.0793
Singapore	Dollar	0.613199	0.543478	27.9212
Australia	Dollar	0.587037	0.520291	26.7300
Bahrain	Dinar	2.992961	2.652661	136.2805
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.300869	0.266660	13.6997
Brunei	Dollar	0.611637	0.542094	27.8501
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000108	0.000096	0.0049
Thailand	Baht	0.025556	0.022650	1.1636
UAE	Dirham	0.307267	0.272331	13.9910
Korea	Won	0.000848	0.000752	0.0386
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.886300	45.5337

Chinoy businessmen . . .

(From page B1)

more investments from Chinese-Filipino businessmen this year, specially in agriculture, despite the perception that they were putting most of their money abroad because of the country's unstable political situation.

"The perception is that everybody's stashing their money somewhere. That's just a perception so it could either be right or wrong. It's not just the Filipino-Chinese businessmen. I have Filipino friends who also keep some of their money abroad. But the peace and order situation has already improved a little bit," he said.

The FFCCCII is composed of 165 chambers nationwide.

Japanese trade surplus with Asia falls to $13B

TOKYO—Japan's trade surplus with the rest of Asia in 2001 fell to less than half from the previous year, hit by slumping exports of electronic devices, the finance ministry said Thursday.

The trade surplus with Asia tumbled 58 percent to 1,762.3 billion yen ($13 billion) in 2001 against 12.6 percent growth in 2000, as Japan either posted a greater deficit or smaller surplus with individual Asian countries.

Exports to the region fell 7.1 percent to 19.74 trillion yen, while imports rose 5.4 percent to 17.98 trillion yen.

With the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Japan slipped into a deficit of 6.8 billion yen in a sharp turnaround from a surplus of 957.4 billion yen in 2000.

Asean groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Exports of integrated circuits and other electronic parts to Asian nations sank 14.5 percent, with office equipment falling 13.9 percent.

"Exports decreased steeply chiefly because shipments of semiconductor products fell amid a worldwide IT (information technology) slump," Sanwa Research Institute economist Koji Hiiragi said.

Imports from the Asian region rose due to rises in audio-video products as well as clothes, but imports of electronics devices dipped 11 percent.

"There has been a structural factor that pushed imports from Asia since companies shifted production over there and imported goods from there, but domestic demand weakened in the latter half of the year as the economy worsened," he said. ***AFP***

US deregulation model in Asia in doubt over Enron's collapse

SINGAPORE—Cronyism, cooking the books, nepotism—when it comes to corrupt business practices, Asia is infamous.

With reports of corruption swirling around the bankruptcy of Enron Corp., many around the continent are chuckling at the energy giant's failure to practice what it and other American companies preach—good corporate governance, deregulation and freewheeling competition.

The scandal is immediately affecting Enron subsidiaries in Asia's energy sector. Moreover, on top of the California energy crisis, the Enron debacle has led many in the region to rethink the American path of energy deregulation that Asian nations have begun to adopt.

"Obviously, what's happened with Enron is going to affect the way that regulators think," said Rohan Dalziell, a Hong Kong-based power analyst with ABN Amro. "It will cause regulators to go back and review criteria. It will slow down the process."

Asia's power generation has historically been closely guarded by governments, and many operations are bloated and inefficient. But Asian governments have been embracing Enron's creed: Open up power sectors to competition in hopes of higher investment returns and lower consumer costs.

Now, a slower deregulation process will likely mean more years of power monopolies and possibly higher prices for consumers throughout Asia.

Immediately, the future of some of Enron's power plants and other assets in Asia remains uncertain, analysts say.

The company's trading office in Singapore has filed for bankruptcy, as have Enron Japan Corp. and its three Japanese affiliates. Enron's stake in a joint venture in South Korea is for sale, and the Philippine government is thinking of taking over Enron's stake in a venture there.

A $2.9-billion electricity plant in India raises questions about Enron's dealings there. Enron subsidiary Dabhol Power Co., the largest foreign investment project in India, already was at the center of a dispute between Enron and India.

The plant, which operated briefly and has yet to be fully built, triggered charges of bribe taking on both sides.

Enron claims the plant's sole customer—the Maharashtra State Electricity Board—failed to pay its bills and the Indian federal government did not honor payment guarantees.

The electricity board claimed that Enron's prices were too high and the contract needed to be renegotiated. The government had a claim against Enron because it stopped providing electricity.

Some in Asia see the Enron scandal reflecting on the whole business ethic that Americans have espoused for the rest of the world. ***AP***

Economists see US recession ending soon

WASHINGTON—A prominent panel of bank economists said on Wednesday the US recession seemed to have nearly run its course and should give way soon to a recovery.

"We are looking at the behavior of unemployment insurance claims and the trends in late Christmas retail spending," said Gregory Miller, chair of the American Bankers Association's Economic Advisory Committee.

He said those indicators pointed to a pickup ahead. He added that factories might soon need to step up production to replenish very lean inventories.

"We've had better news on the production side of the economy," added Paul Kasriel, research director at Northern Trust Co. in Chicago and a member of the panel.

The outlook for business equipment sales, which have plunged during the current recession, appears to be brighter, Miller said.

"Business equipment inventories are low but you have positive orders," said Miller, who is chief economist at SunTrust Bank Inc. in Atlanta, Ga.

The bankers' advisory panel saw the economy, which entered a recession in March, remaining weak in the first quarter of this year but registering a very small 0.3-percent increase in gross domestic product. ***Reuters***

FOREIGN BRIEFS

Honda outshines others

TOKYO—Honda Motor Co. outshone other Japanese automakers in 2001, posting record domestic sales and increased production while its rivals saw sales drop or stay flat and output shrink, data released Thursday showed.

Over the calendar year, Toyota, Mitsubishi and Mazda said sales in Japan fell amid tough economic conditions, while Nissan posted a minimal rise.

Honda sold 863,107 vehicles at home, a 12.8-percent increase from 2000 and lifted worldwide production by 6.8 percent to 2,653,318 units.

But exports skidded 12.9 percent to 415,561 autos due to production delays rather than weak demand.

Japan's No. 3 automaker credited the Fit, its new sub-compact model, for surging domestic sales, which beat its previous record set in 1997 of 801,586 vehicles. ***AFP***

StanChart cuts limits

HONG KONG—Standard Chartered Bank is cutting credit card limits for some customers in Hong Kong as personal bankruptcies surge amid the economic downturn, a spokesperson said on Thursday.

"The rise in personal bankruptcies is one of the reasons for reducing the unused credit lines," she said.

She declined to specify how many customers would be affected by the move, but said it would only be a "small percentage."

"The changes are necessary as a result of Hong Kong's overall economic situation and the need to take a more prudent view of individual credit exposure," the bank said in a statement late on Wednesday.

StanChart has issued some 2.1 million credit cards in Hong Kong. ***Reuters***

20% of EU youths poor

BRUSSELS—Nearly 17 million children under the age of 18 in the 15-nation European Union, one child in five, are living in poverty, a figure that could increase, a study released here Wednesday found.

Britain has the highest poverty rate—25 percent—among children in the European Union, according to a report from a network of non-governmental groups that was co-financed by the European Commission.

Other EU members with noticeably high child poverty rates are Ireland, 24 percent; Spain, 23.5 percent; and Italy, 23 percent.

The lowest rate, 5 percent, was found in Denmark, Finland and Norway, the study concluded. ***AFP***

Brazil to use IMF money

WASHINGTON—The International Monetary Fund on Wednesday cleared Brazil for drawing $448 million from its $15.2-billion credit line approved last September.

The IMF executive board announced its decision after completing a performance review of the Brazilian economy.

"The maintenance of strong macroeconomic policies and the support of the fund have enabled Brazil to withstand a series of external and domestic shocks in 2001, including an energy shortage," IMF Managing Director Horst Koehler said in a statement.

But in a veiled reference to the crisis in neighboring Argentina, Koehler said that Brazil's "external environment remains volatile, and Brazil has a large external financing requirement." ***AFP***

Oracle Database Clusters

Unbreakable

Can't break it Won't go down if your server fails.
Won't go down if your site fails.

Can't break in 14 International security certifications.

ORACLE

oracle.com
or call 1800-144-10054

Copyright ©2001 Oracle Corporation. All rights reserved. Oracle is a registered trademark of Oracle Corporation. Other names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 (9129011 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P230 per column centimeter
P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays
12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays
12:00 noon
every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

PROSTATE CENTER PHILS.
Prostatis-STD
Impotence-Infertility
Urinary Problems
2-C Trafalgar Plaza
105 H.V. dela Costa St.
Salcedo Village, Makati
Tel. 811-8218 or 811-8220

RAPID Tx VD-STD
SCARS Ex SWEAT ALLERGIES
15 Annapolis, Greenhills
Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Matrinco Bldg. 2178 P. Tamo 8175071

DENTAL

DENTAL CLINIC Complete with Xray & Other Equipt. P180,000.00 Tel.560-2303

PERSONAL

ACCOUNTANT

Bookkeeping / Accounting Services
Call or Text 0917-8312369

MASSAGE

18K LTD(M) 8151168

BEST GUYZ 8129107

BOYZ 2DMX 8348875

Glen9264664-09198457226

H-H-MS Male 7314018

H.S. Massage09163924700

JAMES MALE 24HRS SERVICE 8511883

Male 16 Palanan 7320659

MALE MASSUER 09196295003 - Arman

MASSAGE (0919)433-3191 GEM

MASSAGE FRED 8513462

•New Mabuhay Massage• Everyday Promo 421-5996

UNWIND 752-0437

REFLEXOLOGY

BANAWE SPA M&F 7411426

D'Millenium M/F T9347633

Edward Reflex 7289285

Reflex 09196658730/8445117

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

RFLX 09192395660/8891997

Scorpion Massg 4372542

Wizard Massage 4213197

TUTORIAL LESSONS

• LIGHT-5268216 OR 70 •

MISCELLANEOUS

Printing all kinds & Color Separation
Call Maiza 0917-4381634

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

• A-1 MAIDS 8330046/47

Avble Maids Fr. Province 1st Time Mla 445-0513, 291-4524

BEST MAID 411-1593/741-9082

Direct Maid Yaya Driver 7572089

GoodMaids w/NBI 4215580

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

IDEAL MAIDS 4934583

LOW RATE MAID 2596586

MAIDS•2594067•2590869

MaidsOldsitter4141135/3664375

PACIFIC MAIDS ETC
SINCE 1948 T:7312672

RELIABLE HONEST MAIDS W/ NBI 4212938 / 4213253

Yaya Cook Lava T-8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 LIPAT BAHAY 4313974

•CHEAP LBAHAY 9260424•

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

LIPAT CHEAP 5220956

Lipat Bahay • 824-1227

LIPAT BAHAY w/5 helpers 24 hrs. svc 7128861 / 7315750

LIPAT MM/PROVL•4342613•

CARPET CLEANING

Sofa Shampooing 8207066

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMM'L/RESDL

ALABANG

Only 5mins from Alabang Town Ctr & Filinvest Toll Plaza
CrownAsia&Camella
Initial Res P10T
Mo Amort P9T
CALL NOW
Mt Moriah Realty
•825-7753•

MARIKINA

450m² Ind'l Valley Ideal Pre-School 634-1212

SAN JUAN

Coml Lot N.Domingo SJ w/ Whse LA-1600 • 641-9346

HOUSE & LOT

MANILA

NEWLY RENOVATED
DUPLEX HOUSE LOCATED AT UNIVERSITY BELT READY FOR ACCUPANCY. SEE TO APPRECIATE P1.6M NEG. INQUIRE: SUNSHINE 1542 G. TUAZON ST. COR AH LACSON SAMPALOC, MANILA ASK FOR SHIRLEY 749-7163 BROKERS ARE WELCOME

MANDALUYONG

Mand 455m² H&L 632-3935

MARIKINA

1511m² Ipil St., with Pool Near S-Mall 6M • 634-1212

Grnind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

Rush! Calumpang LA 293 2BR+1TB 0917-5282174

MUNTINLUPA

Ayala Alabang 900m²/700m² /500sqm Neg 0917-5282174

PASIG

Dona Juana Subd. Pasig
3BR P4.1M • 641-9346

QUEZON CITY

Cheap 980T only 260m² nr Rbinson,SMFview 9265338

KAMUNING NEW 4BR 3T/B 180m² P6.5M #141 K-2nd St. Tel. 724-2629 • 410-7619

Nr. Mindanao Ave Rush 7422447

PROJ. 2 B'New 3Sty 4BR 4TB P4M #29 Marang St. 434-8186

PROJ. 2 B'New B'FUL 3Sty 3B/R 4T/B P4M #19 Kubili St. Tel. 434-8186 • 724-2629

Rush Sikatuna Vill 466m² 4BR3TB Lanat nr Church, Big Open Space 7M Call Mrs Camacho 9215479

SIKATUNA VILL. B'New B'ful 3Sty #13 Mapagkumbaba P12M Bung. #9 Malipid St., 10.5M 3Sty 119 Matimtiman 10.5M Tel 434-8054, 724-2629

Acropolis/Gnmdows/VVerde 300; 600; 945sqm 4-6BRs 2Stry w/pool P14-32M Call for Appt 633-7601/03

RIZAL

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb 09178174547

Nr Antipolo Church P1.8 LA-346 FA-158 634-1212

Rush! 2Sty 4BR 2TB LA135 FA94 cor lot Neg 3678956

RUSH H&L 4M neg 189 sqm NR CH & MARKT 630-04-26 650-74-64

PROVINCIAL

Southridge 3BR 4TB 287/ 180 Lot/Flr Area P5.5M 0917-5313019 T823-0830

OTHER AREAS

RUSH!CanyonWoods Bingas 6.5M 0917-8143792

LOT

MANILA

Gandara Ongpin VL 941m² P80TH/m² 531-0651 531-8463

PASIG

Valle Verde IV 869m²
Call 634-1212

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

★ FERNDALE QC ★
Ayala Res Lots now available 204-290m² @ P9,500-P12,160 Pay 20%(in 2 mo.)Bal 5 yrs Mo. Inst. Few Lots Only w/ Complete Facilities RUSH! 9319117; 9319160 T.Banez

RIZAL

Taytay 70sqm 09178174547

PROVINCIAL

Belle Reve, Sta. Rosa
Laguna • 641-9346

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

ALABANG

Aspen Tower Alabang
1BR Sale/Rent • 641-9346

LAS PINAS

BFR 1.6M 3BR 2TB 8428853

MAKATI

2BR Condo 1.5M Terms Less 10% Rent 2 Own Lipat Agad 5758367 09192176735 09194341800

C5 Nr The Fort 988T
10T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or
10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD!
Call 0917-8169849 • 148176984

Skyland Mkt 3Broom Condo w/ Parking 4 rent 38,500T or 4 Sale 5.8M Call 533-9776

STUDIO 26.5sm FF P1.6M Century Citadel Inn Makati Ave. cor. P.Burgos •Tel 8230087/09175272166•

MANILA

NEAR ST. SCHO
BNew Twnhse/4stry/3br/3tbrgrge P2.695M up 8903461 loc 34

PACO (OTIS) 2BR CAR GRGE 2TEL H'O TANK SECURED CALL 564-0011 OR 632-4327

Providence Tower Malate Studio Type 0917-5282174

MANDALUYONG

1BR w/prkng 6382812 CT-LAND Pioneer 1.5M neg.

Pioneer High Lands
3BR • 641-9346 Sale/Rent

PASAY

1BR 46sm FFparkng P3.5M Antel Seaview Towers Roxas Blvd-bsd Hyatt Hotel •Tel 8230087/09175272166•

PASIG

235 FA Rennaisance 3000 3BR 3TB 2 Prkng 634-1212

DJT Pasig 3BR • 641-9346

TEKTITE West Sale or Rent 111m² Call 412-1825

Ren 3000 3BR 2CP 8.5M 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

QUEZON CITY

★NR LANTANA★4BRs 2CG P4.5M Well Kept • 671-4421

Narra Hts. Mariposa
Nice 3BR 5.2M • 641-9346

TandangSora 3br+1md 2tb P2.5M DBD 0917-8143792

TandangSora Tiera Pura Embassy 2BR2TB w/ Attic P2.5M Call 0446002075

Townhouse Horseshoe
3BR • 641-9346

Why Buy If Not Ready Use @ 0% nr Ateneo, St. Lukes Free Items / Discounts Call Marie / Beth (Movers) 4210734 / 4213223 Text 09194076857

WOODSIDE NEW MANILA Sale/Rent 2-3BR 641-9346

SAN JUAN

BRAND NEW/NICE LOCATION 4BDRM 3TB 2CAR GRGE MDS RM W/TB PROV FOR GENSET 7M NEG 3612126 / 3612810

Platinum 1 Annapolis
176 FA 17th Flr. 634-1212

OTHER AREAS

Ayala Montgomery 6M Up Near St. Lukes • 641-9346

Up & Dwn Townhse 50sq.m Call 0917-8349005

MEMORIAL LOT

★HERITAGE PARK★ Cheap Re-Sale Lots • 671-4421

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

MEMORIAL LOT

★HERITAGE PARK★ Cheap Re-Sale Lots • 671-4421

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

MAKATI

3BR 2B 2srvntqtr 8992148

MANDALUYONG

2BR CG w/Tel 10T 531-0965

2BR w/Grge Nr. SM 695-4695

Nr Boni City Hall Top CDN
532-8724 • 532-8733

HOUSE

MAKATI

Magallanes House w/pool M-F 8184966 SIS 8106557

MANILA

3BR 2TB 5217640 5223317

SAN JUAN

J. Abad Santos San Juan THse 3BR 1CG • 641-9346

OTHER AREAS

Montecito Canlubang 3BR
Brand New • 641-9346

Perpetual Village Bicutan 4BR Hse 8500/mo 8371937

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

2BR 9650 Pililla Mkt 5218333

Makati 1-2-3BR Furnish 882-8196 • 0919-7847640

Makati 2-3BR Furnished #882-8196 • 0919-7847640

MANILA

Condo apt. 841 Gov.Forbes near UST 8103019 7312148

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Hland Condo 54m² 1BR P15TH/month 531-0651

PASIG

A/C 2BR MdsRm 20T 4121825

Ortigas 1-2-3BR's 882-8196

QUEZON CITY

Burgundy Loyola Katipunan Pkng 2BR 25T • 641-9346

Frt Ateneo QC 1BR FF SP P12T/mo 7121658;7320802

OTHER AREAS

PACIFIC PLAZA FORT
• 641-9346 •

FOR LEASE

Lot EDSA Manda LA2450m² 641-9346 • 0917-5325440

WANTED TO BUY

WANTED TO BUY RUSH!! Rockwell Condo. Units Direct Sale Only, No Agents /Brokers Allowed
Contact By e-mail:
a.lau@behringer.com.hk

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% w/o TAKING CAR 3670169

CAR SANGLA • INSTANT!
WHILE -U- WAIT
924-1254 • 925-9121 • 926-4160
We Also Buy Used Cars

BUSINESS RENTAL

8101 Pearl Plaza, Ortigas Office & Comm'l Spaces 637-8101 637-8080 Ofc Hrs

★ALONG RETIRO★ Prime Ideal 4 Rest. • 671-4421

Mkt.Bldg Grd 25m² P9.5 8905331

Jollibee Plz 81.40m² 26T Call 4121825;09177914366

Spaces 4 Rent Taft Ave. PC 38sqm/24sqm •831-8850•

WHOLE 4TH FLR 396 SQM P75,000/MO. UMC BLDG. 900 UN AVE NR LRT 521-114

RESORT

PansolHotSpring Prvt 776-7507

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

KIA

Besta Van P205T (Neg)
671-3535 / 733-2587 / 0917-8472716

MITSUBISHI

'90 Pajero 721-0317/4452

99PAJERO 1st OWN 30000KM MATIC 4x4 P1.150M 3026033

SUZUKI

SUZUKI VITARA 3DOOR ALL POWER AUTOMATIC 16VALVE NOTHING TO FIX 330T NEG 7517747; 5263259; 09178392893 BERNIE

TOYOTA

95 Corona 68Km Manual Tr P280TH Nego. 842-2469

Imptd Lite Ace GXL D'sel Turbo Matic P365 7210317

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

10/40Kva Gensel Kubota 4x4P55T 3072002; 3610215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Bnew Van 8254058 8261045

BRIDAL/CAR/VAN•4342613•

CAR VANS 413-5383

FXcheaprates3730584Cathy

HI ACE VANS •8252988•

HiAce, L300 9296250

IT/HIACE 9136710/4333682

L300 T7411356

L300/Vans 578-8917(Roger)

StarexMB100HiAce9483535

MB HiAce L3 Urvan 8257135

SELF-DRIVE
New CARS/VANS-ALL BRANDS
ABC 5368822/3039789

STAREX L300 CARS 7268388

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3577523/24

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3646028

2% w/oTaking Car 3732083

Car Released 30mins.8990215

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

YAMAHA PIANOS
Grand & Upright T7213124

ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

Computer 4 Sales CEL300 HDD 3.2gram 64MB CDROM 32w/50 Snd Card Keyboard Mouse VGA Card&15monitor P14,500 •Call 0425854240•

PETS

•AM COCKER SPANIEL•
2MONTHS PEDIGREE 8160148

DOG TRAINER 4528681

PHIL. DOG SCHOOL
Tel 721-3736

Pug Pups! 416-3509 252-0406

SPORTING GOODS

Billiards P30/33/36/38 A1 Qlty-Bnew 8020566/8014494

Imported Billiard 22T, 35T Complete Acc's. 8618714/16 8613123 / 8613125

New Billiard P18.5T P22T P25T Ok C.Card 781-9453

WANTED TO BUY

ANY ROLEX
Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

B/SELL FUL PD EDUC PLAN 7137284•09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

GERRY BUY CARS•4342613•

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

SALE EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

WE BUY ROLEX
5633742 5646593 09174383744

MISCELLANEOUS

Dental Clinic w/ Unit & Chair For Sale 50T Loc. Kapasigan Down Town 642-9446 • 642-9371

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

ALL-AROUND DRIVER 634-1332

HVAC Technician or Engineers Experience in HVAC, Chillers Oriented (MCQUAY, CARRIER) •5623962•09176916992•

FEMALE

Fitness Instructress,Life-guard Domestic Helper & Beautician •5623962•09176916992•

Preschool Teachers
10. J. Ocampo, Proj. 4, QC #421-2595; Txt 0916-3160786

Pretty Shoemart Salesladies For Mega / Bacoor / Makati Sucat/Albng, 5'2" College Level. Bring Biodata, 1x1 #14 Hillside Loop, Blue Ridge, Cubao Tel 439-4260

Wanted PATTERNMAKER
Tel No. 948-8160 Gemma

MALE/FEMALE

CARE GIVER T5280722

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING! TOEFL/TSE Professor Apply in person at 3/F, Chemphil Bldg. 851 Arnaiz Ave., Makati or call Lilia at 817-5811

Lic. Physician; Reg Nurse Medtech 837-0246 Dr. Osorio

M/F Refl'gists Apply at 32-A Baler St. SFDM QC bring Biodata Monday - Saturday only Tel. 371-7016

Ofc Staff 9134470 Ms. FE

Ofc Staff 9134470 CHEL

OFC STAFF 9134470 Mariel

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

OFC STAFF 9134470 Ms Icy

OFC STAFF Rush9134470 Ian

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

FREE TAX SEMINAR 4568634

AUCTION SALE

MUNOZ BRIONES PAWNSHOP
AUCTION SALE
•February 4, 2002•
All unredeemed articles up to September 1-30, 2001 in the following branches:
•354 Roosevelt Ave QC 9AM
•Pinatubo St. Mand 10AM
•Libertad St corner Sierra Mandre Mand. 11AM
109 Dela Rosa St Mkt 1PM
108 Legaspi St Mkti 2PM
V ZAMORA Lic Auctioneer

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BAYAD CENTER • 633-5741

Bo. Kapitolyo 125m² Office or Shop Call 634-1212

•Double Your Income•
Working 1hr/Day fr home My 1st 90 days I Made P130T fr home 9293736

EARN & TRAVEL 0919-6165084

Earn Up to 29T/mo. by Paying Ur Monthly Bills 6335527 /6335528/4536630

Glbe11%Smrt 11.5% 745-9361

Great News! If you are not earning over 200T/mo.@ ur present network bus. Let's Talk Now 807-2359 RESH

Ongoing Business
Rush Sale! Refilling Water Cellphone • 0917-4089942

PROFITABLE INTERNET CAFES FOR SALE
P100,000++ Gross per Month
- Baguio City
- San Fernando City, La Union
- Tarlac

For details contact: JV or Dang Tel. Nos. 637-2778, 637-9290 Cel. No. (0919) 564-2339

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROBERTO N. BLANCO has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc 422 Page 85 Book XIII Series of 2001 Elcid Fajardo Notary Public (PDI-1/ 25, 2/ 1, & 8 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROBERTO P. CUREG has been extrajudicially settled by his hiers on December 21, 2001 under Doc 553, Page 3, Book VII, Series of 2001 before Notary Public Atty. Jovino R. Angel of Pasay City.
(PDI- Jan 11, 18, 25, 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late FELICISIMO R. VILLAMARIN has been settled extrajudicially among his heirs per Doc 484 Page 77 Book XIII Series of 2001 Elcid Fajardo Notary Public (PDI-1 /25 , 2/ 1, & 8 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late RODOLFO V. BARADAS was extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. No. 136; Page No. 28; Series of 2002 under Notary Public Atty. Tomas Boquiren.
(PDI-Jan 25, Feb. 1&8, 2002)

PERSONAL

Thank you Holy Spirit From Oda & Family

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. JUDE
O, HOLY ST. JUDE apostle and martyr, great in virtue, rich in miracles, near in kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present, urgent petition (make your request). In return, I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Saint Jude, pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Pray this nine times a day for nine consecutive days. On the eighth day your prayers will be answered, for this prayer has never known to fail. Please don't forget to publish this once your wish is granted. - A.A.J.

PSST! HONPIEKU...!
HAPPY 5TH HA!
LOVE, YOUR BOOTSKI

SEC Advisory

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) wishes to advise the public that there is still a pending case at the Court of Appeals between Powerhomes Ltd and the SEC, involving among other issues, the Cease and Desist Order issued by the Commission last January 16, 2001.

The Commission has taken action against allegedly similar companies such as Prosperity.Com and G.Cosmos Philippines for violation of the Securities Regulation Code and informs the public that it will take whatever legal means necessary to enforce the Cease and Desist Order against Powerhomes Ltd. for its alleged involvement in unregistered investment contracts.

The Commission has also referred the matter to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) for possible involvement in pyramiding schemes.

The Commission also wishes to inform the investing public that the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders Association (CREBA) has denied ever endorsing Powerhomes or its marketing program and CREBA has in fact suspended the membership of Powerhomes.

Get your career off the ground.

JOBMarket ONLINE

www.jobmarketonline.com

IMMEDIATE HIRING

We are a leading company in fashion and design who is in need of:

GARMENT PRODUCT DESIGNER

- Creative Designer, Innovator
- Concept Artist and up to date in fashion at least 20-25 years old

Submit your Comprehensive Resumé and Transcript of Records to:

Abstract Creation Corporation
#33 Panalturan Street, Banawe Extension
Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 365-0592 to 93

NOTICE OF CLOSURE

Notice is hereby given that the Representative Office of **BANK KREISS, AG**, in the Philippines with office address at 1016 Teresa Street, Rizal Village, Makati City, ceased its business operations effective **December 31, 2001**. Claims against the Representative Office may be filed at the address stated above.

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Telefax Nr 421-2327; 911-6001 Loc. 6592
bac_secretariat_afpmp@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites interested manufacturers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **UPGRADE OF TWELVE (12) UNITS 105MM (T) HOWITZERS M101A1 AND THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) SETS ASSOCIATED FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM (FCS)**, with an approved budget of **One Hundred Eighty Million Six Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Four Hundred Forty Pesos (Php 180,685,440.00)** under the **AFP Modernization Program.**

Only bids from suppliers who are the manufacturers themselves of said howitzers shall be entertained.

Bid documents will be available for issuance starting **January 25, 2002** until **February 7, 2002** during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability, Materiel and Technology Development, J9, AFP, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City upon payment of **Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php 20,000.00)** which is not refundable. The form of payment will be in cash or cashier's check in favor of the AFP.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the bid documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **February 7, 2002 at 1:00 PM (local time)** at *Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, 1st Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.* Prospective bidders are required to submit their queries in writing to the BAC Secretariat prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

The Bidder shall be allowed to inspect the *Howitzers* and facilities upon purchase of bid documents until the deadline of submission of the First Stage envelopes.

Deadline for submission of Eligibility/Bid Documents (First Stage) is on **March 12, 2002** at **9:00 AM (local time)** after which the Opening of Bids shall immediately follow. Venue is at *Silid Panday Pira, OJ9, First Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.*

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) **NARCISO L. ABAYA**
Lt General, AFP
Chairman, BAC

(PDI – Jan. 25 & 26, 2002)

GIA

THAILAND CAMPUS

Gemological Institute of America

Learn about Gems and Jewelry

From the world's foremost authority in gemology
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

The GIA Graduate Gemologist Diploma; the most recognized gemological credential

Next G.G. Program starts February 18, 2002

GIA Thailand Campus

Tel: (662) 237-9575 to 77
Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc15.th.com
www.giathailand.com

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION
Office of the Management Team
Diversion, San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija
Telephone No. (044) 311-2135
Telefax No. (044) 486-3668

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

NEA Management Team (NMT) invites suppliers to apply for pre-qualification and if subsequently found qualified to bid for the SUPPLY AND DELIVERY of the following materials intended for the construction of electrical line (14.7 kms.) of Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) Stock Farm at Gen. Tinio, Nueva Ecija:

200 pcs.	-	Poles, 35'
150 pcs.	-	Anchor Logs, 8" x 4"
370 pcs.	-	Cross Arms, 3½" x 4½" x 8"

Pre-bid will be on February 4, 2002 at exactly 10:00 a.m. at NMT Main Office, Diversion, San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija. For additional inquiries, please call the PBAC Secretariat at Cellphone Nos. (0918) 755-0932 or (0917) 944-7123.

(Sgd.) **JOSE V. CABANELA**
NMT-PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Jan. 23, 24 & 25, 2002)

OBITUARIES

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have ever-lasting life."
John 3:16

Our Dearest Daddy

RUPERTO BANZON ROMAN

passed away peacefully in the Grace of our Lord
and joined our ***Mommy Salome*** *on January 23, 2002*
at the age of 72.

We, his children **Lorna, Noemi & Boy Domingo, Nancy, Jenny & Gerry Amisola**; grandchildren **Chino, Riza, Achiz** and **Tea**; brother & sister-in-law **Restituto & Anita Roman**, other relatives and friends request prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Mt. Carmel Church, Broadway, Quezon City. Funeral Mass will be on Sunday, January 27, 2002 at 2:00 PM. Interment follows at Loyola Memorial Park Marikina.

* Daily Masses at 8:00 PM in the chapel.

FR. BENJAMIN B. CARLOS, S.J.

was called home to the Lord on Thursday, 24 January 2002.

Wake: From late Friday morning till Saturday afternoon at Holy Apostles Senior Seminary, San Carlos Pastoral Formation Complex, EDSA, Guadalupe, Makati City. From Saturday evening, at Oratory of St. Ignatius, Loyola House of Studies, Ateneo de Manila University Campus, Loyola Heights, Q.C. Concelebrated Mass every evening at 8:00 P.M.

Funeral Mass: at 8 A.M. on Monday, 28th January in the Oratory of St. Ignatius, Loyola House of Studies.

Interment: Sacred Heart Novitiate Cemetery, Novaliches, Q.C. immediately after the Funeral Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF HIS SOUL.

RIZAL VIRATA FAYLONA, M.D. FPPS

Past President and Board Member PPS-STC

peacefully joined our Lord on January 24, 2002

His brothers and sisters **Luningning, Kaulayao, Bayani** (†), **Jose, Benjamin, Amor** and **Norma** (†), in-laws, aunt **Ligaya**, nephews, nieces and other relatives request prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Family Residence at No. 78 Medicion 1st, Imus, Cavite. Cremation will follow after the 1:30 p.m. Mass at the Imus Cathedral on January 27, 2002.

In Precious Memory
on the First Death Anniversary of

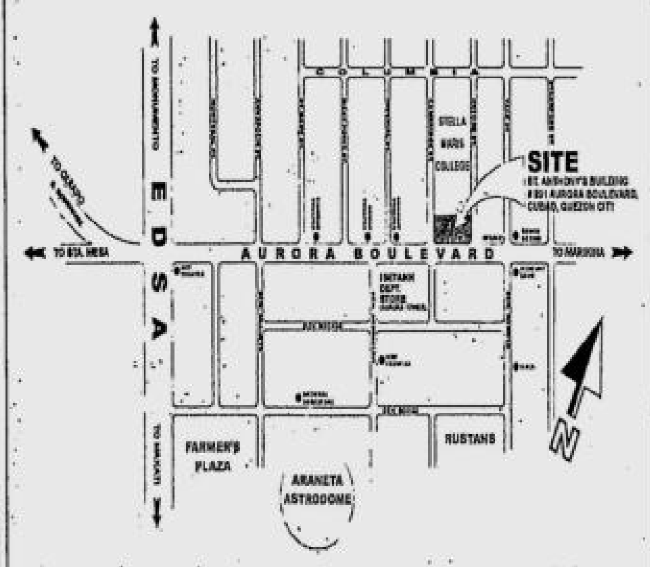
Judge IRINEO V. MENDOZA

December 15, 1927 - January 25, 2001

Lovingly remembered by wife **Maring**; children **Jun & Mary Jane, Ross & Racel, Elmer & Maricar, Norman & Lourdes, Eric, Homer & Marvin**; grandchildren **Irma, Janina, Maxie, Ricci, Isabela, Dylan, Aileen, John Boy** and **Erwin**; sisters.

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Aurora branch is now open to serve your Classified Ads requirements. For inquiries, please call **912-9008** to **11**.



In Loving Memory

On the 21st Death Anniversary of

MARIANO B. PEÑAFLORIDA

who passed away on 26 January 1981

Masses will be offered Saturday, 26 January 2002 at the following:

Sanctuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park	12:15 noon
Sanctuario de San Jose, Greenhills	7:15 a.m.
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori, Magallanes	6:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Beautiful Love, Merville	6:00 p.m.
Parish of the Holy Sacrifice, U.P.	6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church, Pototan, Iloilo	5:30 a.m.
St. Clement's Church, La Paz, Iloilo	5:30 p.m.

The family requests relatives, friends, and pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

The family of the late

GODOFREDO "GODING" OGBAC, SR.

who passed away on January 21, 2002
at the age of 77

wishes to inform relatives and friends that his body lies in state at the family residence in Palayan, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro.

Interment will be on Sunday, January 27, 2002 at San Agustin Memorial Garden, Barangay Quinabigan, Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro.

FLORA GUMTANG MALLARI

of Banna, Ilocos Norte

Passed away peacefully in the Grace of the Lord
on January 23, 2002 at the age of 80.

Her bereaved children **Eligio** and **Cely**; **Bernard** and **Zon**; **Elen**; **Rey**; **Bing** and **Edwin**; grandchildren **Marissa, Maricelle, Bernadette, Brenda, Bernard Jr., Bryan, Benette, Benjie, Judelle**, and **Noel**; and other relatives request prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Chapel 10, La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at Himlayang Pilipino, Quezon City on January 28, 2002 after the 9:00 a.m. Funeral Mass.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8973535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 (9129011 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

In Loving Memory

On the First Death Anniversary of

RODOLFO "BABE" OCAMPO DESIDERIO

Former President of: **JOSE E. DESIDERIO and COMPANY, INC.**
COUNTRY BANKERS INSURANCE CORPORATION
COUNTRY BANKERS LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION

Former Chairman of the Board of: **RURAL BANK OF CALOOCAN, INC.**
LA FUERZA LENDING CORPORATION

Who died in the Grace of our Lord last January 25, 2001.

Holy Masses for the eternal repose of his soul will be offered on January 25, 2002 by his wife **GLORIA**; his daughter and son-in-law **GERALDINE** and **IAN GARCIA**; his grandchildren **IGI**, **ISA** and **INO**; his siblings, **Jose II** (†) and **Juliana**; his sister-in-law **Caridad**; his brother-in-law **Ernesto**; his nieces and nephews **Ernestine & Marcelo Fernando, Jr.**, **Ernesto Villareal, Jr.**, **Ernest Julius** and **Carina Villareal**, **Ernestito Villareal**, **Agnes & Joel Muñoz**; his grandnephews and grandniece **Quinito**, **Rafael**, **Nico** and **Ines** at the following:

San Roque Parish, *A. Mabini, Caloocan City*	6:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Parish, *Ideal, Quezon City*	6:00 a.m.
Good Shepherd Shrine, *Fairview, Quezon City*	6:00 a.m.
Basilica of St. Martin the Tour, *Taal, Batangas*	6:00 a.m.
Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, *Cordillera, Quezon City*	6:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Grace, *Grace Park, Caloocan City*	7:00 a.m.
Mary Help of Christian Parish, *Maypajo, Caloocan City*	7:00 a.m.
Sto. Domingo Church, *Banawe Street, Quezon City*	7:15 a.m.
Ermita Parish Church, *Ermita, Manila*	8:00 a.m.
Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene, *Quiapo, Manila*	10:00 a.m.
St. Joseph Shrine, *Balanga, Bataan*	5:15 p.m.
Our Lady of Assumption Parish (Harrison Plaza Chapel), *Malate, Manila*	5:30 p.m.
Santuario de San Jose, *Greenhills East, Mandaluyong*	6:15 p.m.
Our Lady of Pillar (Sta. Cruz Parish), *Sta. Cruz, Manila*	6:15 p.m.
St. Bernadette's Parish, *Ajax, Ontario, Canada*	8:00 a.m.

Rizalina Llavore Viña

December 30, 1930 - January 18, 2002

Sally is survived by her husband **Jesus**; children **Edgardo** and **Jessilyn**; daughter-in-law **Emilie**; grandson **Michael**; brothers **Wilfredo** (†), **Sinforoso, Jr. & Elpidio**; sisters **Aurora, Rosario & Carmelita**; in-laws; nephews; nieces; cousins & other relatives.

Her remains lie in state at Nacional Memorial Homes (Chapel 1-B), 264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, January 26, 2002 at the La Loma Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

With deep sadness, we, the Salesians of Don Bosco,
announce the death of our Superior General

VERY REV. FR. JUAN EDMUNDO VECCHI SDB

the 8th Successor of St John Bosco,
Father and mentor of the Salesian Family.
He passed away last Wednesday, the 23rd of January 2002
in the infirmary of the Salesian Pontifical University in Rome.

This Friday, the 25th of January, at 8:00 in the evening
the Salesian Family will offer a Funeral Mass
at St John Bosco Parish, Pasay Road, Makati City.

In Memory
of the 1st Death Anniversary
of

Rev. Fr. LUIS G. HECHANOVA, CSs R

who died on January 25, 2001.
His family has offered Masses at the following churches:

Sanctuario de San Antonio Mckinley Road, Forbes Park Makati City	12:15 P.M. 6:00 P.M.
Iloilo Memorial Park Iloilo City	5:30 P.M.
Redemptorist Church Baclaran, Pasay City	5:45 P.M.
Redemptorist Church Cebu City	5:30 P.M.

In Loving Memory
of

EDITHA MONASTERIO PULIDO

who was called to eternal rest on January 25, 1988.

The **EDITHA MONASTERIO PULIDO MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC.** and her family request the pious render to pray for her eternal repose.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even if he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die."
JOHN 11:25-26

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.
John 14:6

Family members of the late

HERA DELLOSA-ELEGADO

Wish to extend their heartfelt gratitude
to all relatives and friends
for their presence, thoughts,
generous support and prayers
during their recent bereavement.

Marketing basic for LGUs–keep balanced scorecard

By Eduardo L. Roberto
Professor of Marketing
Asian Institute of Marketing

(Second of two parts)

HEADS of local governments should be concerned about the final scorecard that their constituents would hand in at the end of their term.

In my forthcoming book on "How to Make Local Governance Work – Listening to the Citizen's Voice and Taking Action: the Final Scorecard" (AIM, 2002), I argued that the constituents are the final judges of good or bad governance.

I also detailed how to earn high final scorecard grades and therefore satisfactorily create, maintain and deepen relationships with constituents.

IEC your constituents. Inform, Educate and Communicate with constituents. Every new initiative and every change in an ongoing initiative has a critical communication side to them that one can ill-afford to overlook or neglect.

This was demonstrated in the Bulacan story where even for a simple project as Governor Josie de la Cruz' billing statement for her real property tax program there was need for an IEC campaign. Learn from this case.

Be single-minded in your IEC message development. The objective of IEC is to get the target audience to behave or take a particular course of action. The persuasive message that will do this should come from the study of the service value that is most motivating to the constituents.

There will be at least two situations to distinguish. In the simple case, the most motivating message can be determined by a priority needs analysis I have explained in my book.

In the more complex situation, where the target citizens are unable to verbalize their motivation, an equally complex analysis approach is required.

This is not to say that an LGU leader should learn the details of this complex approach. Rather, one should be able to make the distinction and dispense the appropriate guidelines to be followed by the IEC team.

Be target-constituent driven in presenting the IEC message. When planning the IEC campaign, it is useful to distinguish between the what-to-say decision and the how-to-say decision of the IEC. Presenting the IEC message is a question of how-to-say it.

In reaching a decision here, proceed according to how constituents talk about the subject of the IEC message. If one finds out that they talk with high involvement and thinking, then present the message with a lot of information and demonstration to make for a long busy IEC copy.

On the other hand, if the constituents talk about the subject of the IEC message with involvement and with more feeling than thinking, then present by using heavy ad execution elements, dramatic exposures, and an emotionally loaded IEC copy.

There is almost an emerging science in all this. We are not asking an LGU leader to master this science. What is important is to appreciate the logic of the technique so that one can provide the necessary clear guidelines for the IEC team to observe.

Use IEC media not only for reaching but also for persuading the target audience. It used to be that TV, radio, print, and other IEC media vehicles were chosen only for their audience reach function.

This is treating media as a mere message distributor. It is saying that such media are about making the IEC message available to the target audience.

Today, we know better. There are specific IEC media vehicles that can also facilitate audience persuasion and do this better than other media vehicles. This means that one can choose the media that will not only expose to the target audience what one wants to say, but also to make it easier for the message to persuade the communication recipients. Media vehicles can therefore also perform an attitude-change function.

Learn the trade-off between reaching a wide audience a few times versus reaching a few but frequently. Remember that reach yields awareness of the IEC message among the target audience. On the other hand, frequency prevents the target audience from forgetting the IEC message.

So which one is more important for the IEC campaign at a given campaign phase or stage? In the case of Governor Josie de la Cruz' health insurance program at its launching phase, the program wanted, above all, immediate and widespread awareness among the target downscale constituents.

Then among those who were already aware, it wanted the segment reached to remember and not to forget. So here, reach was the top priority, provided a good enough level of non-forgetting was secured.

This means that more of the IEC budget would be earmarked for the use of many different media vehicles that would compensate for each other's limited reach of the target audience. What was left would go for minimal repetition of media placements.

Base the choice of IEC media mix on a set of considerations different from those for an audience reach objective.

To select a mix of IEC media vehicles for persuasion means the chosen media mix must first succeed in getting the target audience to learn and understand the IEC message, and then to change their attitude about the saliency of what the IEC is trying to get across.

There are three sets of considerations in coming up with the media mix that is best to facilitate learning and understanding and trigger attitude-change. To get the audience informed and gain learning and understanding, pose these questions:

To inform and make the target audience aware—what is more important for the IEC material to have—verbal or visual content? What media vehicles are better suited for carrying such a content?

What does the IEC informing objective need to provide its target audience in terms of information processing time—a long or a brief processing time? What media vehicle/s are better at facilitating the needed processing time that a prospect will require in order to process the information on, say, the multiple benefits and the enrollment mechanics of an insurance plan?

What kind of frequency of message exposure does the IEC require for the communication objective of informing—high or low? What media vehicles will cost-effectively satisfy this required frequency of message exposure?

In the choice of the best media mix to deliver on the persuasion angle, the same three basic considerations must be adopted, with the obvious difference that they are directed at the communication objective of changing target audience attitude.

(Dr. Eduardo L. Roberto is the Coca-Cola Foundation Professor in International Marketing of the Asian Institute of Management and author of numerous books and articles in the field of marketing Please address comments/inquiries to ned@dataserve im.edu.ph. To view this article, visit the AIM Website at http://www.aim.edu.ph)

The latest on transfer pricing rules

By Jules E. Riego
SGV & CO.

TAX-FILES

THE CURRENT trend in the Asean region is the institutionalization of the rules on Advance Pricing Agreements (APA).

Just recently, Indonesia has adopted an APA in its tax environment. It perhaps recognized the need for applying clearer transfer pricing rules, which are already in place in most parts of Europe and in the United States.

An APA is a contract between the revenue authority and a multinational company or group of companies, in which the tax authority (the Bureau of Internal Revenue in our case) pre-approves the pricing of transactions using acceptable transfer pricing methods on the taxpayer's inter-company transactions.

With this development, coupled with the vigorous effort of the government to lessen the budget deficit, the Philippines is sure to follow.

Consequently, we can expect the BIR to put renewed emphasis on both fronts of assessment and collection, particularly in the application of existing transfer pricing regulations to augment its revenue base.

The BIR, through the commissioner of Internal Revenue, is empowered to make transfer pricing adjustments to determine the true taxable income of related organizations, trades or businesses.

What is transfer pricing?

Transfer pricing is defined as the pricing of transactions between "related parties" such as a parent company and its subsidiary, for example.

The application of related parties extends to "controlled taxpayers," that is, any one of the two or more organizations, trades or business owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the same interests.

Our local transfer pricing rules require that pricing between related parties be established as they would be in a commercial transaction between two unrelated parties, i.e., it should be under arm's length conditions.

The price that should be charged by a taxpayer to a related taxpayer must be what it is charging to a totally unrelated party.

The rationale of transfer pricing rules is readily apparent, namely, to prevent the shifting of income and expenses between and among related taxpayers. In other words, it is necessary to determine whether common control is being used to reduce, avoid, or escape taxes arbitrarily.

Some economists are of the more profound view that transfer pricing rules are necessary tools to level the playing field.

The far-reaching implications of an unbridled related part transactions could only mean survival of the biggest, but not necessarily, the fittest company, because as stated, related taxpayers would have the ability to shift losses and income between them.

Eventually, healthy business competition is eliminated, paving the way for monopolies.

Others think that the inevitable globalization of trade gave birth to transfer pricing rules. The melting of trade barriers between countries demands a more common and stable set of rules that everyone can follow without abusing the tax rules in each jurisdiction.

Transfer Pricing Issues

In the Philippines, how can we determine then if a transfer pricing issue exists in a company's transactions? Basically, the following questions should be asked to see if transfer pricing exists:

- Does the company belong to a bigger group of related companies and is the company involved in a transaction or series of transactions with a related company?
- Does the company perform services for its affiliates free of charge or at rates lower than those commonly applied?
- Does the company extend inter-company loans or advances without interest or with interest at less than the market rate?
- Does the company maintain cost-sharing arrangements with its affiliates such as rental, development costs or advertising expenses?
- Have there been instances where the transactions between the related companies were questioned by the tax authorities?

If the answer to any of the questions above is yes, then the taxpayer may have to consult existing transfer pricing rules.

The current rules affecting transfer pricing issues in the Philippines are found in Section 50 of the Tax Code, Revenue Audit Memorandum Order (Ramo) No. 1-98, and Revenue Memorandum Order (RMO) No. 63-99.

Section 50 of the Tax Code pertains to the allocation of income and deductions by the commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Ramo No. 1-98 pertains to audit guidelines and procedures in the examination of interrelated group of companies. The Ramo also discusses the four methods that can be used to determine the arm's length price for a particular transaction, let's say, sale of goods.

RMO No. 63-99, on the other hand, refers to the determination of taxable income on inter-company loans or advances. It discusses the types of transactions where an arm's length interest rate must be charged.

Admittedly, the current transfer pricing rules in the Philippines are not yet as detailed and as complex as that of the United States. RMO 63-99, however, is relatively more specific as it deals with the charging of an arm's length interest rate on particular transactions.

However, it is still a far cry from Section 1.482-2 of the US Transfer Pricing Regulations.

Interestingly, for example, RMO 63-99 has already clearly stated that arm's length interest rate must be charged on ordinary loans and trade receivables (receivables in the ordinary course of business out of sales, leases or supply of goods and services).

However, it did not define the exceptions or in what specific situations that an interest need not be charged because it may be justified by industry practice. On trade receivables, it is still not yet clear from what point an interest must be charged.

In other words, the "interest-free period" on aging trade receivables is still an issue. It is also still an issue whether interest (separate from penalty for default) should be charged on sale of property by installment between related parties because obviously cost of money is involved.

The adolescence of our transfer pricing rules is not without reason.

Understandably, the more mature and progressive economies of the United States, Japan and other developed European countries have earned for them the experience and expertise that gave birth to their detailed transfer pricing rules which can already address very specific situations.

As a result, these countries are assured of easier monitoring of business transactions particularly between related taxpayers or group of companies.

However, with the current thrust of the government to strengthen the enforcement of collection of taxes (instead of imposing new ones) being in the right path, it will not be long before we see a reinforced, detailed and stricter application of transfer pricing rules in the Philippines.

(For comments and suggestions, please send an e-mail to sgv mail@Andersen WO.)

Anticipating disruptive change

By Roni Tapia-Merck

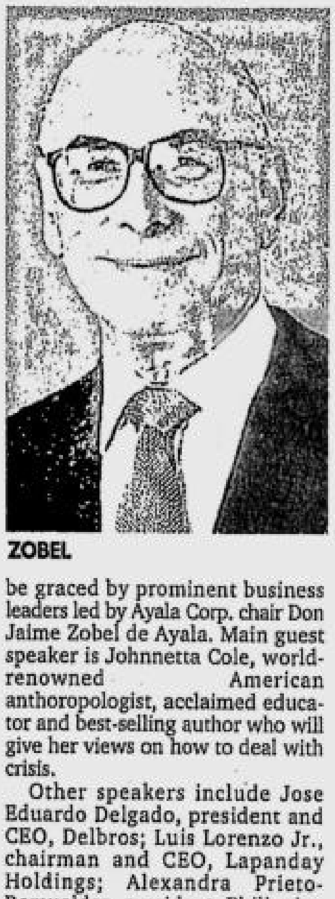
IN A WORLD where people are becoming increasingly dependent on the computer, connectivity poses the greatest risk. Somewhere, according to this theory, an evil genius or a hacker is waiting for the right time to let loose a virus in cyberspace to bring trade and industry grinding to a halt.

Not an altogether implausible scenario, considering that even a dropout from a computer school in the Philippines could wreak havoc on computer systems in New York, London, Frankfurt and Tokyo.

As it turned out, however, the worst disaster of the new millennium was inflicted upon us last year not by hi-tech cyberwarriors but by religious fanatics wielding weapons no deadlier than boxcutters.

Indeed, nobody could predict what will happen next, nor could any government prevent feared events from taking place. Thousands of FBI agents within the United States and CIA operatives distributed throughout the planet failed to stop the march of events despite ample evidence that the catastrophe was bound to happen, certainly not with terrorists who were indifferent to their own annihilation.

For this reason the International Association of Business Communicators, for its Jan. 29 conference, has adopted the theme "Communication in an Age of Disruptive Change."



ZOBEL

The day-long conference will be graced by prominent business leaders led by Ayala Corp. chair Don Jaime Zobel de Ayala. Main guest speaker is Johnnetta Cole, world-renowned American anthoropologist, acclaimed educator and best-selling author who will give her views on how to deal with crisis.

Other speakers include Jose Eduardo Delgado, president and CEO, Delbros; Luis Lorenzo Jr., chairman and CEO, Lapanday Holdings; Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez, president, Philippine Daily Inquirer; and Margarito Teves, president, Land Bank of the Philippines.

Cole, Zobel and other business leaders will share their expertise and experiences in dealing with disruptive change.

As already mentioned nobody could predict change, disruptive or otherwise, let alone stop it. It is possible, however, to prepare for it.

For corporations upon which so many people depend for livelihood, it is imperative to adopt safeguards to blunt the effects of change. It is their duty to innovate, to become more flexible, more efficient so that they're ready when it comes.

On technology, there will be advances, but any advance will merely be incremental. As an innovation the computer, perhaps the greatest influence in modern life, is already a spent force, except in some pockets of underdevelopment that have yet to be invaded by the computer.

As demonstrated by the Sept. 11 attack, events of catastrophic proportion will come from sociopolitical forces. As if competition caused by rapid changes in the marketplace were not enough, corporations must deal as well with issues and problems normally outside its ken.

But the greatest danger to trade and industry and to the world still lies in traditional, garden-variety terrorism, if there is such a thing. And it wouldn't take so much for such individuals to set the world on fire.

(For more information, please call Ernest Loquinario or Buboy Sarte at 845-5380, 845-5533 and 816-9439, or register online at iabc ph@mac.com.)

Using art direction to boost brand image

(From page B10)

lousy ads can be as memorable.

Do you know why some ads look flat and boring while some look real, as if going to leap off the pages of newspapers? The creators surely must have worked with an extraordinary art director who knew his craft and photography well.

For your brand to rise from the clutter, hire an art director with inherent taste, pizzazz, savvy, versatility and spunk. Do not hire art directors who waste themselves in beer houses.

Steve Henry, last year's Clio head of jury says, "the copywriter's best friend is not a dictionary, a thesaurus, or an HB2 pencil. It is his or her art director."

Paul Silvermann, Chief Creative Officer of Mullen and Wenham adds, "advertising has become cinematic, meaning that the double page spread has evolved into a movie screen. Like an ancient Chinese scribe, the ad maker's job is to write pictures that speak a thousand words, not merely mirroring what the headline is saying. Use words as though they were frames of film in a camera and shoot fast."

REinventPLAID
NORDSTROM
ƆRK

UNLIKE these ads, most signages in the Philippines have too manyelements.

An ad with good art direction—superb layout, typography and of course, great photography can speak a thousand words for your brand. It could give your product image some spring, a new lease on life.

Just as you spend time thinking about your message, think of how to package and dress up your ad. Always remember that it tells the consumer who you are and the quality of service you deliver.

Resto relies on stickers, not ads . . .

(From page B10)

siomai, *chicharon* and peanuts. For dessert, there's *mais con hielo* and *halo halo.*

Go says they have increased the circle of loyal customers of Rufo's with these simple but effective marketing measures, and they continue to look for other measures.

"With our new measures, our immediate plan for the year is to expand our Ortigas branch to a 24-hour establishment similar to the one in Makati. This would cater to office workers and residents in the area who crave for tasty meals at reasonable prices," Go says.

BUSINESS Friday

Margie Quimpo-Espino, Business Features Editor

Using art direction to boost brand image

By Roger Pe

ON A recent trip to Tagaytay, two award-winning creative directors talked extensively about the state of art direction in Manila.

The first one, now based in McCann Vietnam, opened the conversation with an observation: while Manila's MRT system looked impressive, she thought that the signages were horrible and its posters were unappetizing and crudely done.

The other one countered that the signages were actually very Pinoy. He noted that Filipinos always fell prey to the *"borloloy"* syndrome—the more elements and typefaces on the posters, the better.

Most of our ads look bad because these have elements which are *"patung-patong," "sari-sari," "sapin-sapin," "ang dami-dami,"* and *"halu-halo."* And, we could not even use letter styles or fonts properly.

Our Philippine *"kawayan"* or bamboo font, frequently used by *"kamayan"* type restos and beauty pageant ads for instance, can be reinvented to attain global acceptability.

This was how the Bodoni, Futura, Garamond, Fritz Quadrate, Gaudy, Palatino and Spumoni fonts gained international recognition.

Their creators polished them. They used good sense of balance and aesthetics to the hilt, reengineered and then tested the fonts. They also injected style and sophistication without losing the inherent ethnic charms.

When I was working for a multinational ad agency in Jakarta, I was surprised by the tremendous inroads the city had achieved in advertising. Even their street streamers, cafes, bars and shopping mall signages were well directed.

They knew how to use fonts and they certainly knew how to play with their Futuras, Helveticas and Fritz Quadratas.

Our Philippine ads can elicit *"ohs"* and *"ahs"* like what Calvin Klein, Benetton, Nike, Tag Hauer advertising did for their respective brands.

When you think of these ads, they have one thing in common—great photography. With fantastic photography, even

USING/B9

NORDSTROM
FURLA

GREAT looking ads are clean and are defined by sharp photography.

Protecting your future from the unforeseen...

guaranteed interest limit

on the most **flexible home loan*** offer!

PSB Home RateProtect

makes it happen.

* subject to credit approval

Only 12% interest rate for the first year. Guaranteed maximum interest of 15% for the next four years. So, you have sure protection from the unpredictable rise in interest rates.

Up to 25 million pesos available to you. Be it a high-rise condo unit, a duplex apartment or a house and lot, you can have your dream home according to plan.

Protective measures guaranteed, backed by the strength of Metrobank.

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY

Working harder for you.

Transfer your existing loan now

and enjoy free application and processing!!!

From January 25 to March 31 only.

Call 843-2038, 843-1672, 885-8217

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0182 Series of 2002.

PSBank Tower, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue cor. Tindalo St., Makati City Tel. 843 2038

Rufo's
Tapsi At Its Best
Since 1986

Resto relies on stickers, not ads, to get clients

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

COMPANIES with big budgets and deep financial pockets, like the telecommunications companies and car manufacturing firms, have the luxury of spending millions on tried and tested advertising methods to promote their product or service.

MARKETING STRATEGY

Smaller companies like Rufo's, which operates three restaurants in Metro Manila, have to be a little bit more creative since they cannot afford to spend good money on millions worth of advertising space or minutes.

So instead of buying precious ad space, Rufo's owners Karen Go and Ivy Brito distributed stickers with the Rufo's name on it. The stickers were distributed to jeepneys and tricycles that ply routes that would take customers to their outlets along Amber Avenue, Taft Avenue near De La Salle University and the first outlet along Kalayaan Avenue in Makati City.

"Because of our limited capital, we cannot really rely heavily on advertising. We had to be innovative also in marketing . . . one way was giving out stickers to jeepneys and tricyles...with the words, *'Barya Lang Po Sa Umaga'* and then our Rufo's logo to promote the Rufo's brand," Go tells the INQUIRER.

They distributed stickers while distributing flyers to the different offices and schools near the Rufo's branches.

The marketing expenses may have been much cheaper but these innovative measures were nonetheless effective in promoting the restaurant chain.

Beginning

Rufo's claims to have helped popularize the *tapsilog* when it opened in 1986. It was the brainchild of former SGV head Rufo Colayco, who together with four other businessmen, put up the restaurant chain.

Unlike other chains that also serves *tapsilog*, its version has sauce and the meat is more tender compared with the other outlets that serve the same food. It also offers other favorites such as tocino with rice, boneless bangus, longaniza with rice, *embotido*, T-bone steak, *sisig*, chili chicken wings, mushroom *adobo* and porkchop.

In 1989, a group of graduating students from De La Salle University bought Rufo's from the Colayco group. These young students took on the day-to-day operations of Rufo's while holding office jobs. In no time, it became known among students and office workers as an establishment that sells reasonably priced and quality food.

With the mounting pressure from their office jobs, the De La Salle students sold Rufo's again to current owners Karen Go and Ivy Brito, who left their jobs at SGV and in Taiwan respectively, to build their new business.

Karen poured P300,000 from her own savings to take over the business, renovate the outlets and produce marketing materials. School friend Ivy, put in her expertise in the food business, having worked for Jollibee for three years before going to Taiwan.

The new owners not only improved the look of the outlets, but also expanded the menu to include more Filipino favorites, but still at reasonable prices.

Rufo's menu list now includes grilled items such as chicken barbecue with rice, pork barbecue and *liempo*. Merienda fare lists *tokwa't baboy*, salted egg with tomato, *siopao*,

RESTO/B9

For feedback, text us at (0919)661-2337 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

al-Formoso, Editor ▪ Marge C. Enriquez, Subsection Editor

A whole new world for Lea Salonga

(Story on page C4)

Feeling 'jologs' in Marikina

(Story on page C6)

[c] FREE MUG!
Just buy a dozen
Dunkin' Donuts
and
ORIGINAL
Coffee.
Available in 2 COLORS
Promo extended to Feb. 3, 2002

FERSAL INN
New CONDOTEL
Avlb 2 & 3 BR
Fr. US$95 net ☎912-8000

Fully
Furnished
*
Clean
*
Nice Rooms

P400 to 1,300/DAY
Disc. on Wkly/Mo.
* 11th Day FREE

107 Neptune St.
Makati City 1201
Tel (632) 897-9123
Fax (632 897-9107

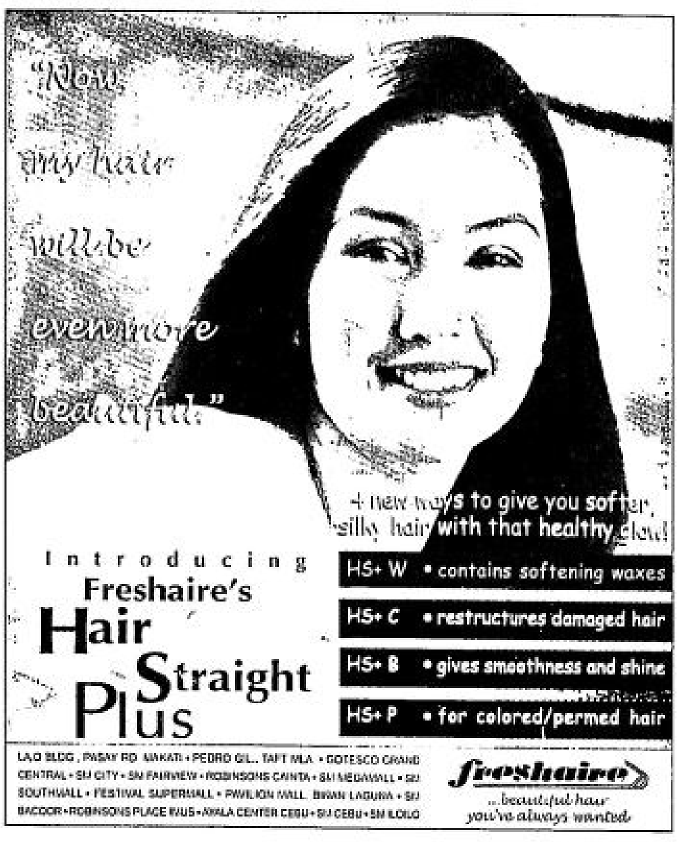
245 P. Tuazon St.
Cubao, 1100 Q.C.
Tel. (632) 912-8000
Fax (632) 9136078

130 Kalayaan Ave
Diliman, Q.C.
Tel (632) 924-2680
Fax (632) 925-3205

40 Annapolis St
Cubao, Q.C.
Tel (632) 912-5852
Fax (632) 911-3418

E-mail: fersalinn@i-manila.com.ph

This week
at SM Supermalls
ANDREW E.
JAN. 25 • 4pm
ACTIVITYCENTER, LGF
SM City
FAIRVIEW



"Now
my hair
will be
even more
beautiful."

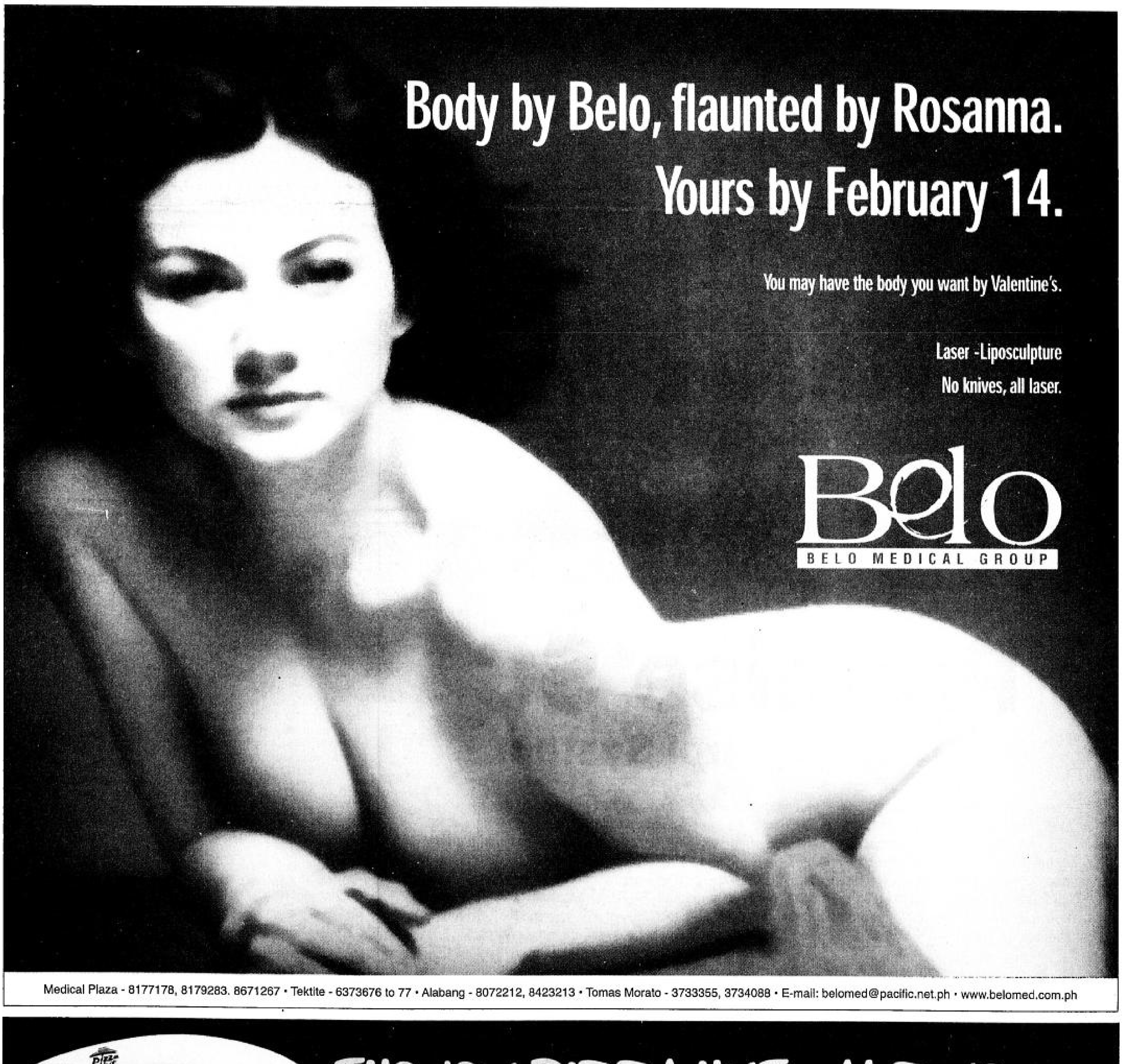
4 new ways to give you softer, silky hair with that healthy glow!

Introducing
Freshaire's
Hair Straight Plus

HS+ W • contains softening waxes
HS+ C • restructures damaged hair
HS+ B • gives smoothness and shine
HS+ P • for colored/permed hair

LAO BLDG., PASAY RD. MAKATI • PEDRO GIL., TAFT MLA. • GOTESCO GRAND CENTRAL • SM CITY • SM FAIRVIEW • ROBINSONS CAINTA • SM MEGAMALL • SM SOUTHMALL • FESTIVAL SUPERMALL • PAVILION MALL, BIÑAN LAGUNA • SM BACOOR • ROBINSONS PLACE IMUS • AYALA CENTER CEBU • SM CEBU • SM ILOILO

freshaire
...beautiful hair
you've always wanted



Body by Belo, flaunted by Rosanna.
Yours by February 14.

You may have the body you want by Valentine's.

Laser -Liposculpture
No knives, all laser.

Belo
BELO MEDICAL GROUP

Medical Plaza - 8177178, 8179283. 8671267 • Tektite - 6373676 to 77 • Alabang - 8072212, 8423213 • Tomas Morato - 3733355, 3734088 • E-mail: belomed@pacific.net.ph • www.belomed.com.ph

THE NEW PIZZA HUT CALZONE.
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS.
Pizza Hut

Fashionistas cheer YSL's last hurrah

AFTER YVES St. Laurent announced he was retiring from the fashion scene at the start of the year, critics and journalists had only one question in mind: "Will haute couture survive without the leadership of a master like Yves Saint Laurent?"

Bernard Arnault, president of Louis Vuitton-Möet Hennessy, the world's largest fashion enterprise, had the answer. "Did the creation of fine art stop when Matisse died?" he replied in an interview published in Le Figaro. "Haute couture in Paris will continue with the likes of Lagerfeld, Galliano, Gaultier and the rest," he added.

Provocation

While Saint Laurent's house of haute couture is closing, the name will not disappear. In 1999, he sold the rights to his label, ceding control of his Rive Gauche collection, perfumes—including the designer scent Opium—cosmetics and accessories to Gucci Group in return for $70 million cash and royalties.

PICASSO-INSPIRED

Since then, Gucci's creative director, Tom Ford, has been in charge of the RTW collection, fragrances and cosmetics.

The hubbub over Saint Laurent's departure and the debate it has provoked over the future of haute couture has annoyed some of his fellow designers. Christian Lacroix went on French radio earlier Tuesday to deplore what he called "this feeling of attending a national funeral."

"There is too much reverence," he said. "It's as if he were being buried alive in a mausoleum."

Chanel designer Karl Lagerfeld chimed in with his frustration. "What a dramatization, this departure!" he complained in Sunday's Journal du Dimanche. "He's making too much of it."

Saint Laurent stunned the fashion world two weeks ago when he announced he was ending his glorious and turbulent career, partly in disgust over what he saw as an industry ruled by commercial rather than artistic motives. He also spoke of his past battles with drugs, depression and loneliness.

CLASSIC satin trench, worn over a mousseline skirt and blouse

"We live in a world of disorder and decadence," the designer said in an interview Tuesday with Le Monde newspaper. "This struggle for elegance and beauty caused me much distress. I no longer felt part of the world," he said. "I felt alone, more alone than ever."

Super A-list

The retirement of Yves St. Laurent was, in itself, marked by a spectacle that seemed to look more like a homage to a man who worked himself off for 43 years creating the most beautiful and the most perfectly made garments in the world—also the most expensive.

The whole Paris came, including the 187 clients that make up the world's haute couture clientele: from Mouna Ayoub to Emmanuelle Beart; some of the world's greatest actresses like Catherine Deneuve, Lauren Bacall, Jeanne Moreau, former first ladies Danielle Mitterand and Claude Pompidou and current first lady Bernadette Chirac. Even his peers like Hubert de Givenchy, Christian. Lacroix, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Kenzo Takada and Tom Ford came.

Also recalled were some of the models that walked down the YSL ramp in the 1970s and 1980s, such as Mounia and Jerry Hall. However, former mannequins like Kirat and accessories designer Mercedes Rubirosa, now proud mothers with matching figures, played audience to their former employer.

With a mammoth rally being staged by medical practitioners in the streets of Paris, creating an unprecedented flow of traffic, several invitees and professional gate-crashers opted to take the metro. They were greeting by a neon sign in red imposed on the façade of the Centre Georges Pompidou that read. "Yves St. Laurent."

Over 6,000 people showed up. Only 1,500 were invited. The papparazzi had a blast photographing the super-A list crowd. And so did the fanatics; never in fashion history did one see a gathering of the world's most beautiful and most fortuned people enveloped into an arena. The crowds that were literally left out in the cold were treated with huge screens built around the museum grounds directly beaming the event.

Retro fashion

Saint Laurent presented four decades worth of clothes, some originals and many updated classics. Elegance and beauty were certainly on display Tuesday evening. The show began on a simple note with an outfit from 1962, the year the designer opened his couture house on the Rue Spontini: a navy blue pea coat over white pants. It was one of Saint Laurent's hallmarks: dressing women in pants, including for evening, in such a stunning way that fashionable women who couldn't afford haute couture were grateful for the boost.

The show ended on a glamorous note, with a bevy of lovely, ladylike, draped chiffon dresses from this year's collection, in colors like magenta, sky blue, red and pink.

SILK chiffon dress with a wraparound bust

In between, with the help of veteran models like Texan-born Jerry Hall, Claudia Schiffer and Naomi Campbell, there were all the famous phases of Saint Laurent's work: from sleek daytime pantsuits to safari and jungle outfits to the stunning peasant-chic evening wear for the "Ballets Russes" collection. More than 300 outfits were all for sale.

There were the Mondrian dresses of the 1960s—sleeveless shifts with black stripes and big colored squares of blue, red or green on a white background—inspired by the geometric works of painter Piet Mondrian.

From the 1970s, there were the romantic "Ballet Russes" dresses in rich satins, with beaded bolero jackets and toque hats. The colors were fabulous mixes of pink, red, turquoise and purple, or chartreuse and salmon.

Applause after applause, the veteran models glided through the burgundy carpet, framed in fuschia blocks: The stage reminded the crowd of the colors on the Rive Gauche label.

Finale

After the famous lace and black uni-shoulder dress, modeled by Jerry Hall, disappeared with the lights on the platform, a familiar tune from the early 1970s played. Dramatically, the lights went on with Catherine Deneuve singing "Ma Plus Belle Histoire D'Amour," a hit popularized by the late French Chanteuse Barbara. Followed by Laetitia Casta, they were both wearing what had made YSL the darling of every cosmopolitan woman in the world "Le Smoking," the suit cut like a man's tuxedo but done in the most feminine of fabrics.

Toward the end of the song, Yves St. Laurent appeared, followed by at least 32 models all wearing his most famous outfit "Le Smoking." The crowd greeted him with a 10-minute standing ovation—even the crowd in the cemented grounds outside the museum stood and applauded.

Not bad for a man who went through the hazards of life: cocaine addiction, alcohol dependence, detoxication and a rumored nervous breakdown. What is really admirable is the fact that none of these hindered the artist's creative energy.

As the crowd dispersed, one couldn't help but notice a six-meter streamer left by a group of fans hanging on the entrance wall of the museum. It read: "To Yves St. Laurent, Thank you for making us women proud that we're women!"

Surely, with a message like that, Monsieur St. Laurent would sleep rather peacefully for the rest of his life.

With or without stimulants.

AP, AFP

YVES St. Laurent after his last show with Catherine Deneuve

No.1 German technology.
No.1 in the U.S.
No.1 in home protection
now here in the Philippines.

Premise® SC
Termite Control System

When *anay* attacks, your home which is your biggest investment can turn into your biggest headache and unplanned expense. You need Premise® SC. The Bayer termiticide that's No.1 in the U.S., Premise® SC is a revolutionary termite control system. Unlike other termiticides that merely repel termites, it brings termites to a treated zone where they are poisoned and killed. Premise® SC works on all four of the most destructive species of termites in the Philippines. It is also odorless and will not harm or irritate people and pets. In fact, one can stay in the house that is undergoing a Premise® SC treatment. Bayer has specially trained and accredited 36 Pest Control Operators (PCOs) to give your house the quality Premise® SC treatment. Premise® SC and our partner PCOs, your best defense against *anay* attack.

Maximum Protection. Minimum Concern.

Bayer

Accredited Premise® SC Applicators:

3A Pest Management Services • Ace of Seven Enterprises • Advance Pest Control Corp. • Apollo Pest Control • Asian Pest Control • Belnor Pest Control Services • Bio-tech Advanced Pest Control (Phils.), Inc. • Certified Pest Control • Chemitron Enterprises, Inc. • Don Fabian Pest Control Systems • Entom Pest Control & General Services Corp. • Filipino Pest Control & Gen. Services, Inc. • International Fumigation Services, Inc. • Julant Pest Control Systems, Inc. • Metropolitan Pest Control Corp. • Mighty Formation Exterminators, Inc. • Multi-Pest Services • No Ka Oi Phils. International, Inc. • Pest Control Services, Inc. • Pest-Away Exterminating Supply and Services • Pestguard & Chemical Co., Inc. • Philippine Control Technologies Service • Progressive Venture Pest Management Corp. • Regal Pest Control • Rentokil Initial (Phils.), Inc. • Republic Pest Control, Inc. • Resourceful Pest Control • Salmorin Termite Extermination Services • Servicus, Inc. • Smith Brothers Corp. • Super Termite & Pest Control, Inc. • Systematic Pest Control Services • Termigard Pest Control Specialist • Timber Protection Services • Wood Expert & Preventive Maintenance, Inc. • Zool Pest Control Service

AHEAD TUTORIAL & REVIEW

MTV MUSIC TELEVISION

TOGETHER WITH

L'OREAL PARIS · MTV · e MEDIA · Apple

fwd · meg · Don Henrico's · INQUIRER

PRESENT

GET AHEAD GIMIK @GLORIETTA

Celebrating youth, Celebrating dreams...

THE FIRST-EVER SCHOOL FAIR IN A MALL!

Glorietta Activity Center
Saturday, January 26, 2002
10 am to12 mn

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER ONLINE
www.ahead.com.ph
info@ahead.com.ph
OR CALL
426-0034 to 36
OR CALL

TO REGISTER THRU TEXT:
SP AHEAD <FIRST NAME> <MIDDLE INITIAL> <LAST NAME> <USER NAME> <PASSWORD>

Passport Number Inquiry:
SP AHEAD PN <USER NAME> <PASSWORD>

SEND TO 211

tambayan
tatoos
games
freebies
makeovers
net surfing
booths
food bands
prizes
and a whole lot more...

WOODROSE
HOLY SPIRIT
XAVIER
POVEDA
ATENEO
ST. PAUL
ICA
CLARET
ASSUMPTION
ST. JUDE
LOURDES
CSA
SOUTHRIDGE
MIRIAM
O.B. MONTESSORI
LA SALLE
JUBILLEE
SOUTHVILLE

ACADEMY · KOLIN HOME APPLIANCES · World

EMPORIO ARMANI white · RALPH · L'OREAL STUDIO · MAYBELLINE · L'ORÉAL PLENITUDE · Féria

KFC · Mister Donut · LOTUS · MONGOL · TIMEX · BAUSCH & LOMB

Nominate Outstanding Trial Court Judges, Public Prosecutors and Public Attorneys to the 11th AWARDS for JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

Help turn the wheels of justice

Deadline for Nominations: APRIL 8, 2002

NOMINATE

3 Outstanding Regional Trial Court Judges
- Chief Justice Cayetano Arellano Award
- Chief Justice Ramon Avanceña Award
- Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos Award

2 Oustanding Metropolitan or Municipal Trial Court Judges
- Justice Felicisimo Feria Award
- Justice Alex Reyes Award

2 Outstanding Prosecutors
- Senator Ambrosio Padilla Award
- Senator Lorenzo Tañada Award

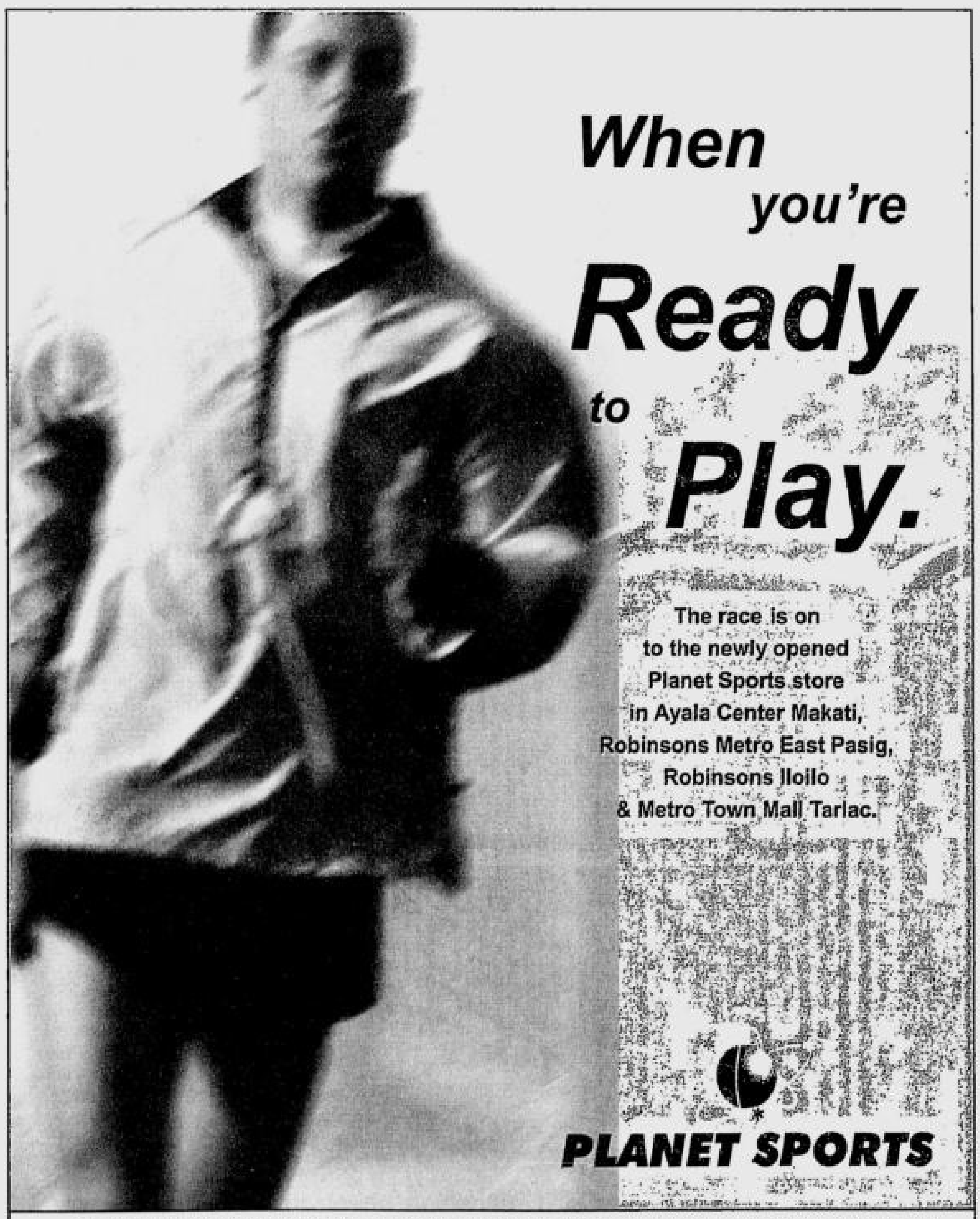
1 Outstanding Public Attorney
- Chief Justice Jose Laurel Award

PRIZES
P50,000.00 cash
and trophy each
HONOR CEREMONIES
Supreme Court, June 14, 2002

Submit nominations to the

FOUNDATION FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

4th Floor, IBP Building,
Julia Vargas Avenue, Pasig City
Tel. 634-4694 Fax: 634-4695
E-mail : fjexcellence@mindgate.net


When you're Ready to Play.

The race is on to the newly opened Planet Sports store in Ayala Center Makati, Robinsons Metro East Pasig, Robinsons Iloilo & Metro Town Mall Tarlac.

PLANET SPORTS

Also visit us at: Power Plant Mall Rockwell Center • Rockwell Pro Shop • Festival Supermall • Robinsons Town Mall Los Banos • Ayala Center Cebu • Robinsons Cebu
Soon to open: Planet Sports Metro Point Edsa-Taft • Pacific Mall Legazpi City

arena · PUMA · new balance · U.S.Kids Golf · SRIXON · adidas · reebok · BABOLAT · YONEX

THE NEW PIZZA HUT CALZONE.
WE'RE KEEPING IT UNDER WRAPS.

Pizza Hut

A whole new world for Lea Salonga

By Leah Salterio
Photos by Raymund Isaac

LEA Salonga is one artist who will never compromise artistic integrity for commercial gain. This had been her overriding conviction long before she gained international fame through "Miss Saigon." She has abided by her personal mantra for every project she does. And she keeps her fingers crossed that years from now, producers and artists will do the same despite the dramatic changes that have occurred and will occur in public image-making and story-telling industries.

"I want to see the day when producers will not necessarily say, 'This is what we think the majority will like,' " Lea says. "I don't think you have to compromise your artistry to make money. My belief is when you put out a product you personally like, there will be others who will also like it."

EMBROIDERED linen blouse and easy cotton slacks

Lea's attitude was strengthened by the influence of "Miss Saigon" producer Cameron MacKintosh, who made her an international star, first on West End in London, and then on Broadway, New York.

Lesson from MacKintosh

"MacKintosh said, 'I do it to make myself happy and if others are happy, then I'm also happy.' He obviously has more money now than he ever dreamed of."

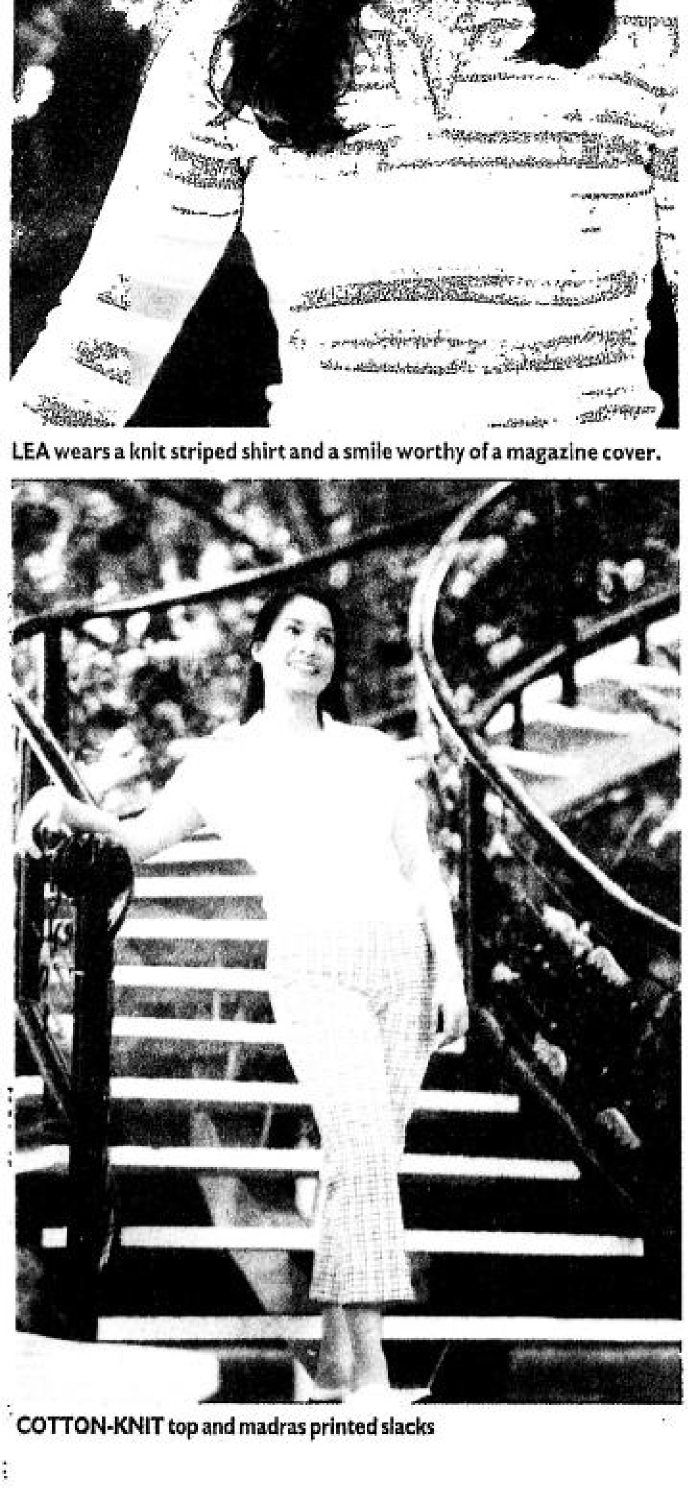
Lea notes MacKintosh changed the way people perceived the London theater. His musical productions also took New York by storm when they were staged in Broadway.

"They were not necessarily the happy, happy Broadway musicals that a lot of people would identify as 'Broadway musicals,' " Lea explains. "They were darker. There was something different about the image, but the public was flocking to see that.

"So you can't necessarily say, 'Okay, this is what the public will like so I'll put it out.' Do what you feel is right and the public will notice because there will be something that will touch them."

WEARING an off-shoulder peasant top and red pants

LEA wears a knit striped shirt and a smile worthy of a magazine cover.


COTTON-KNIT top and madras printed slacks

That's the reason Lea does projects like "Proof," a straight play for Atlantis Productions and directed by Bobby Garcia which runs at the GSIS Theater until Jan. 27.

Fulfilling

"That's the reason I do theater," Lea says. "It's not the most commercially viable occupation, but it's the most fulfilling for me. I was always taught to follow my passion. You follow what you love and then you'll just make money.

"I'd like to think that a lot of the things I've done were the things I've always wanted to do. You can say I've paid my dues here. I started in theater and I was just something that came out of a random audition that my Mom (Ligaya Salonga) took me to one fine day. Even the juvenile teen movies that I did before, I had to read the script and I had to want to do it."

No, Lea doesn't cringe when she sees her early films with the likes of Herbert Bautista.

"They were right for the time and they weren't harmful to my image," she says. "I had a lot of fun when I did the movies and the camaraderie between the actors was such that you never felt you weren't working.

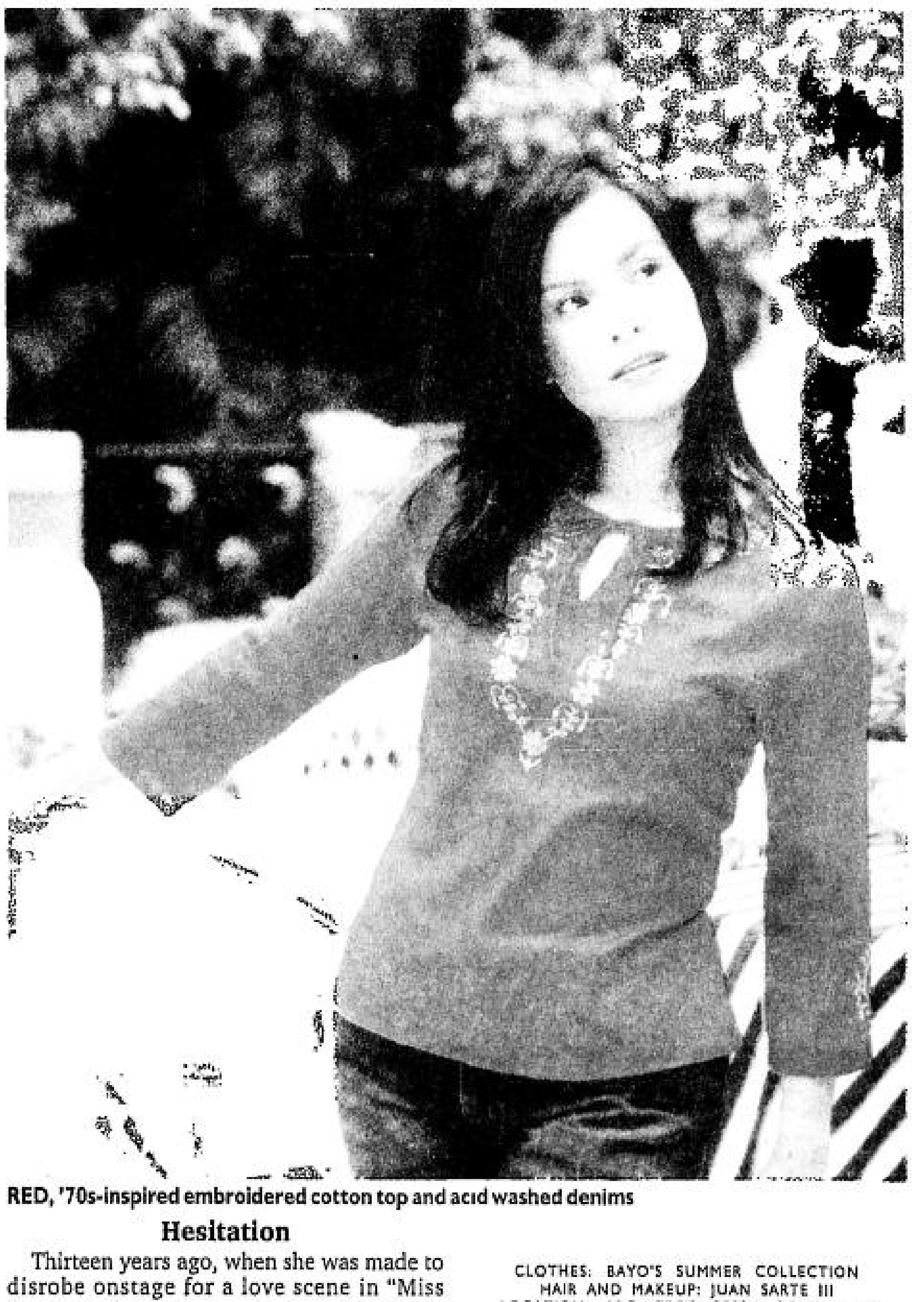
"I was among people who were mostly my age, extremely talented, too, and fun to be with. It wasn't about making *sosyal*. We were there to work and we were very proud of what we did."

Lea says the only thing she will not do is nudity.

"For one thing, I'm not necessarily against it, but I'm not comfortable baring my body in front of the camera," she points out. "It just wouldn't feel right for me. But having said that, as an artist, there's a right way of doing it that doesn't look *malaswa*.

"I've seen 'The Piano' or 'The English Patient.' These are movies that brought Oscars to either the artists or the filmmakers. There's a lot of full frontal nudity, but you don't see it as *bastos*. It didn't seem offensive. It was just part of the movie."

Even in theater, Lea doesn't think she can do what Nicole Kidman did in "The Blue Room," a Broadway play where the Australian actress was made to bare onstage. "I can't imagine having 700 people in the room and I'm naked. It just doesn't seem right," she says.


RED, '70s-inspired embroidered cotton top and acid washed denims

Hesitation

Thirteen years ago, when she was made to disrobe onstage for a love scene in "Miss Saigon," where she merely removed her bra with her back against the audience, Lea had a lot of hesitations.

CLOTHES: BAYO'S SUMMER COLLECTION
HAIR AND MAKEUP: JUAN SARTE III
LOCATION: ARCHITECT GERRY CONTRERAS' RESIDENCE, SOUTH FORBES

The international star welcomes the rich possibilities of the future

"I was squeamish," she recalls. "Even if my back was turned, I had a hard time. I was thinking, 'What will my mother think? What would people from home think?' You don't really see much because the light was turned off right away. The scene got easier by the day.

"When I did 'Miss Saigon' again on Broadway in 1999, I was made to wear a transparent bra. But it would get caught in other quick costume changes and my hands would get caught. They found something else. I was still modestly covered up, but the illusion was there that I had nothing on."

"Miss Saigon" not only made Lea an international star. It was also one major thing she did that inspired other Filipino artists to make it big abroad.

"When I first did 'Miss Saigon,' I wasn't sure what kind of image it was going to portray, especially since the image that I had left behind was very wholesome, very juvenile and very family-oriented," Lea says. "I had no idea what was going to happen when I went to London at that time.

"The image that came back that seemed to be positive was when they said the Filipino artist had triumphed in London and that I made Filipinos very proud. I didn't know that was going to be the effect. I had no idea that would be the by-product. I guess until now, many years later, I'm still feeling it, although a lot of people still kind of have that image of me when I first moved to London. I didn't choose 'Miss Saigon.' It chose me."

Integrity

In a culture of positive discourse, Lea admires storytelling integrity.

"I admire a story when there's truth to it, when there's honesty and when it's not so glossed over that makes it look so unreal," she says. "If the ending is sad in reality, let it be sad. Don't alter it.

"If you're purposely trying to make a source of escape for an audience, let it be that. I can escape in a love story, especially if it's a happy ending. But if the ending is sad, I don't fuss about it."

Between film and theater, Lea says she's more comfortable being somebody else for two hours on stage.

"I'd rather not be me for two hours. It's a good way of escape. A lot of people use drugs or alcohol. But when you do a play, you're literally in another world for two hours. So when you go back to the real world, you deal with it better."

Respite

On Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, Lea takes a respite from theater and holds a two-night Broadway concert at the PICC Plenary Hall. The shows are presented by Bayo, the garment line she is endorsing, which is making its first concert production venture.

"I needed a break from doing musicals," Lea says. "It just seemed logical for me that whenever I come home, I sing. Then I get to work with my brother (Gerard) again. I look forward to it. It's also fun to perform."

The last time Lea performed live onstage was when she did the millennium concert at Westin Philippine Plaza, which had a repeat at the PICC. Then she did "Songs from the Screen," with the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) also at the PICC. Both concerts were recorded live by BMG Records Pilipinas, Lea's record label for more than five years now. Her forthcoming shows at the PICC will again be recorded live by BMG.

"I don't want somebody to say she did this because she was just going to make money out of it. Although I'm sure there might have been people saying that," Lea asserts.

What others don't probably know is that Lea makes more money when she's in the United States.

"You do a voice-over for something, you see residual checks for the rest of your life and you don't get that here. I can take a lot of risks when I come home to do, say, 'Proof.' "

However, she has no time for a movie offer. Her last big screen appearance was opposite Aga Muhlach for Star Cinema's "Sana Maulit Muli," which was filmed in California.

"My visits here are always short, although it'll be fun to immerse myself in another love story," Lea says. "Something like 'You've Got Mail,' 'Sleepless in Seattle' or 'When Harry Met Sally,' the Nora Ephron stories, would be fun to do. I like 'America's Sweethearts.' I don't know if anybody here has ever thought of doing something like that."

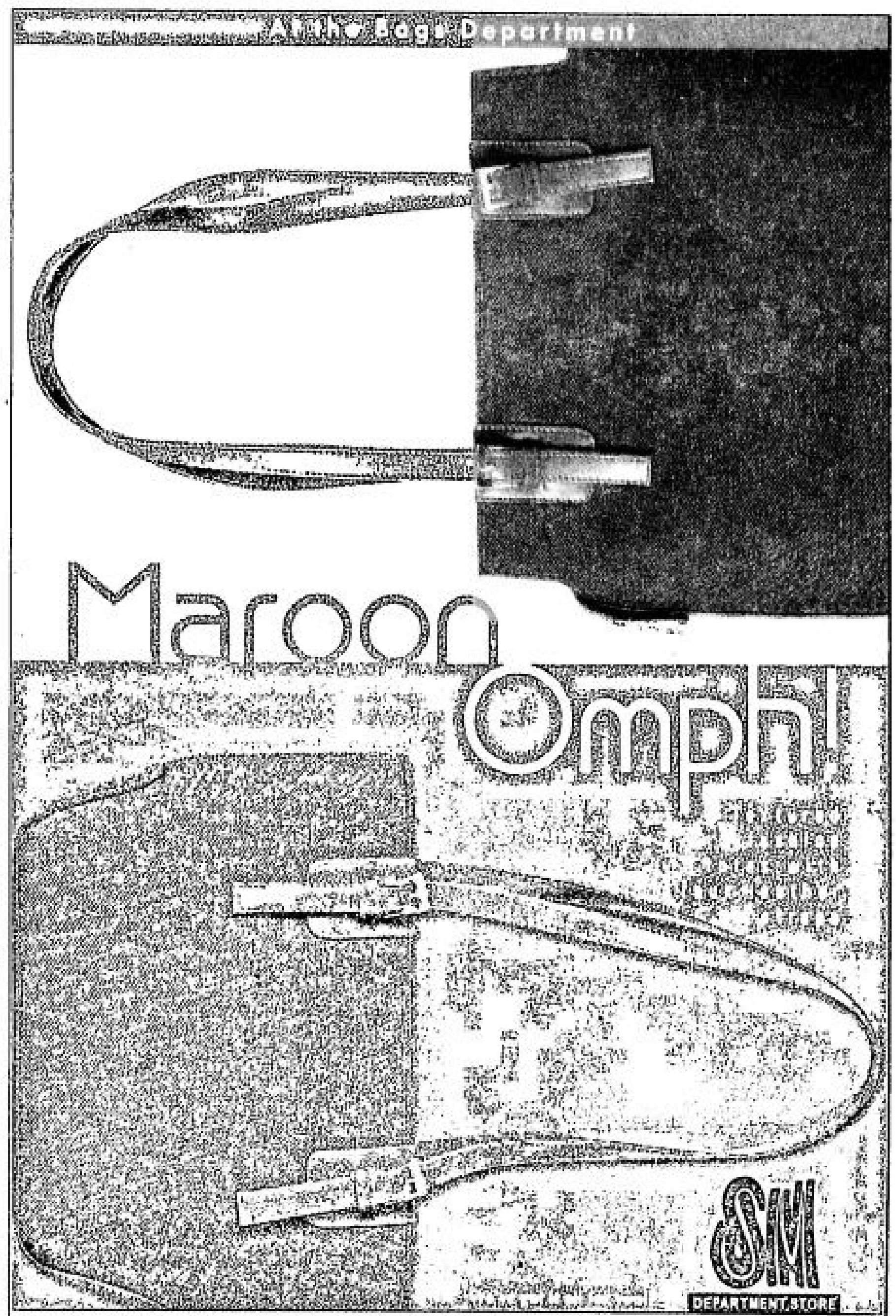
What excites Lea, who will turn 31 on Feb. 22, are the possibilities of the future.

"It may sound pretty deep, but I'm thrilled at new opportunities, the chance to do certain things. I was brought to L.A. to do 'Flower Drum Song,' but things started to happen away from that.

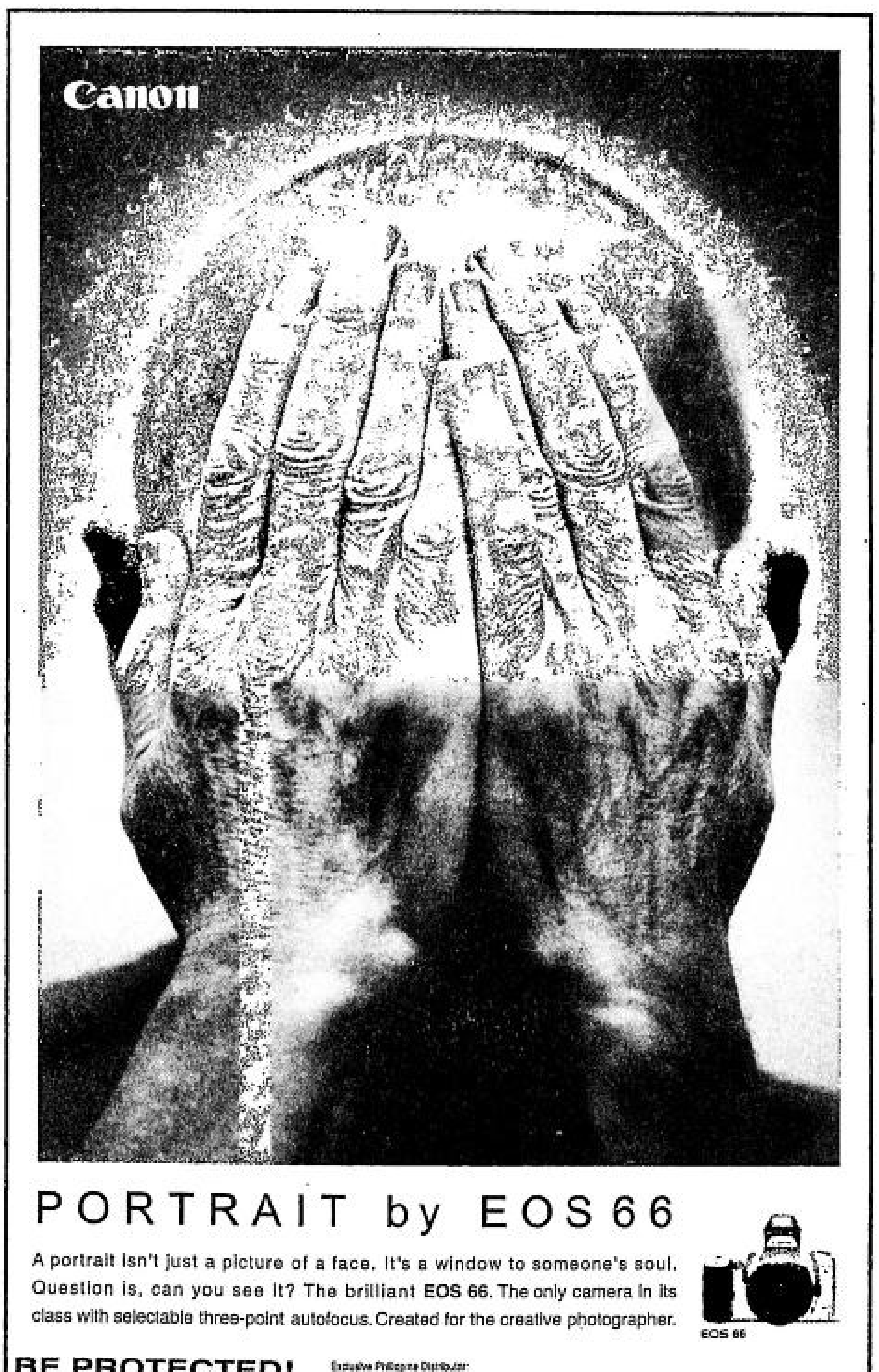
"I got a taste of what's it like to do TV. It kind of showed me what the possibilities could be. None of these is sure. I might just end up as a big fat failure after all that's been said and done. But the possibilities simply excite me."

While doing "Flower Drum Song," Lea was tapped to guest in an episode of the medical-drama, "ER," which turned out to be the most-watched in the series.

"I got lucky because it was the last episode of Eriq La Salle," she says. "I got to work with him and faint in Noah Wyle's arms 10 times during rehearsals. I couldn't possibly complain."



QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU • DAVAO



PORTRAIT by EOS 66

A portrait isn't just a picture of a face. It's a window to someone's soul. Question is, can you see it? The brilliant **EOS 66**. The only camera in its class with selectable three-point autofocus. Created for the creative photographer.

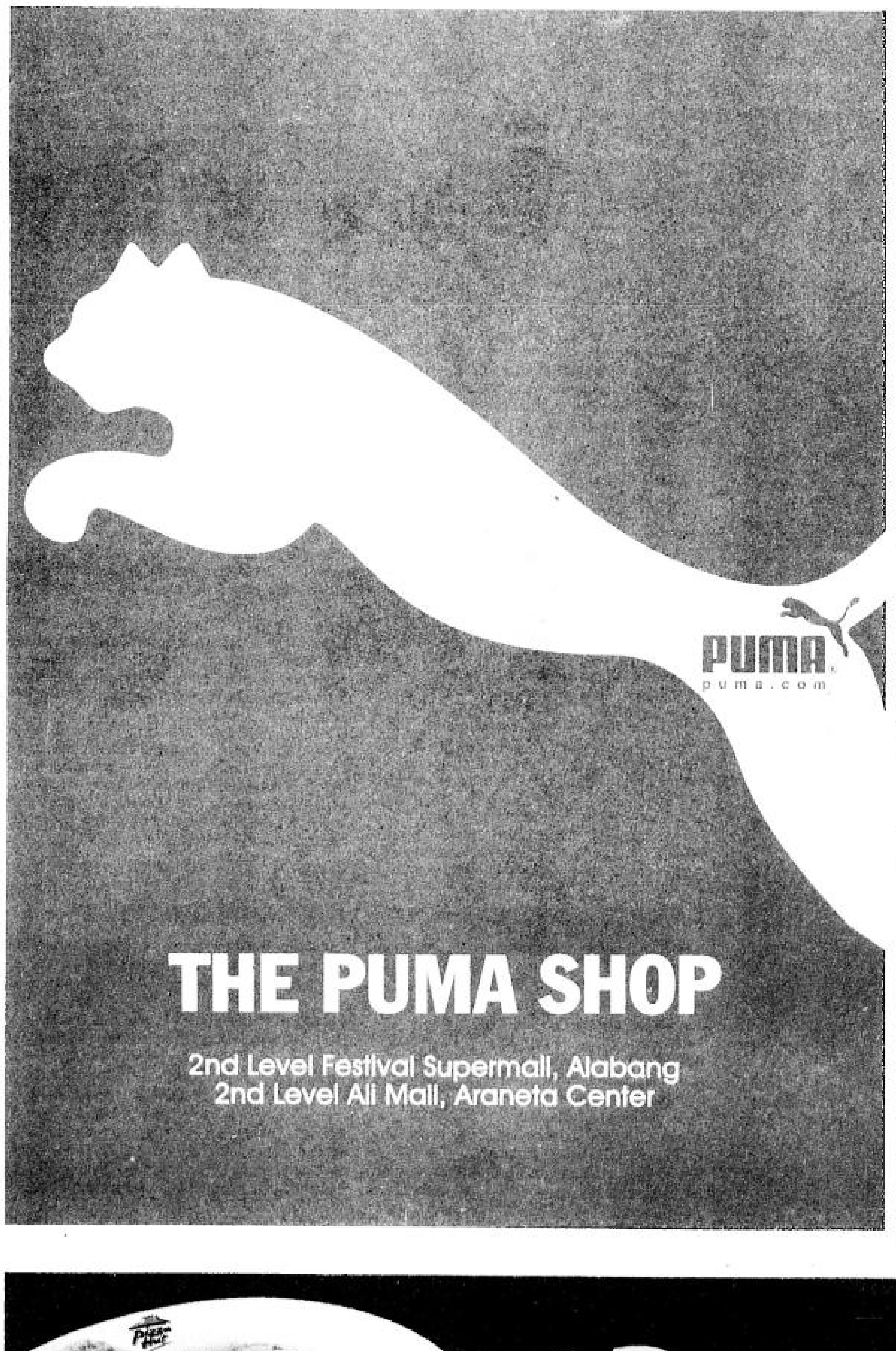
BE PROTECTED!

Exclusive Philippine Distributor:
SUPER EAST ASIA ENTERPRISES INC.
CANON CAMERA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE NETWORK (PHILS.)
CANON CAMERA SHOWROOMS:

AUTHORIZED DEALERS:
PROVINCIAL DEALER:

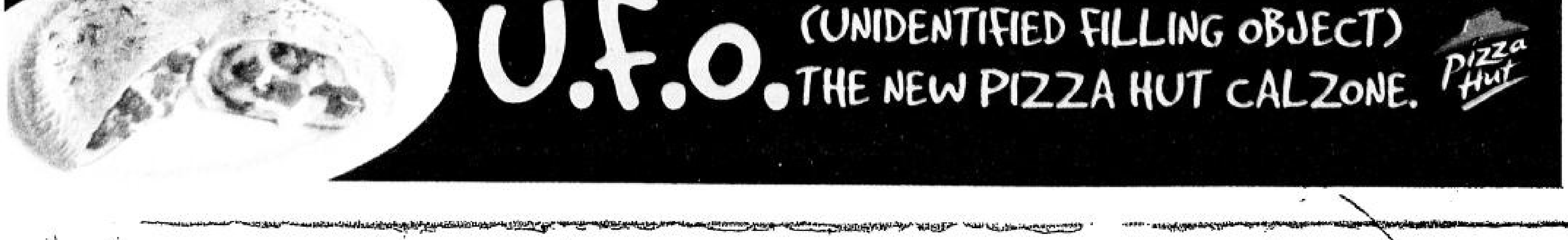
Philippine Subsidiary: Canon Marketing Phils. Inc.

AVAILABLE AT BETTER CAMERA SHOPS AND DEPARTMENT STORES NATIONWIDE



THE PUMA SHOP

2nd Level Festival Supermall, Alabang
2nd Level Ali Mall, Araneta Center


Pizza Hut
U.F.O. (UNIDENTIFIED FILLING OBJECT)
THE NEW PIZZA HUT CALZONE.
Pizza Hut

Feeling 'jologs' in Marikina

WE can't jump every time there's a Luzon-wide blackout, like somebody has lit a firecracker under our seat. While we can't quite figure out what the gods—and the wannabe gods—are up to in their power play, the least we can do is not let them play with our psyche. We deserve to relish our normalcy.

Speaking of which, I never thought I could ride a boat down a clean river under a moonlit sky in polluted Metro Manila. But I did one day, three weeks ago, in Marikina.

After office hours at 7—the hour of decision for most of us corporate warriors raring to bolt the foxhole—I got a call from **Ricky** who, on impulse, set a dinner date that night with **Ethel** and **Jacqui** in, of all places, Marikina. It didn't seem like a bad idea.

So far my trips to Marikina have been limited to visiting the dead once a year, but I've heard about its attributes from friends who live there and are proud of it. Pride of place is one thing you don't get from Metro Manilans; it'll perhaps take another lifetime for us to even come close to a New Yorker's sense of place. But Marikina folk seem different from you and me, in this way. They like to talk about how clean Marikina is, how the sidewalk is a—sidewalk, in short, how things aren't bad where they live.

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

Our dinner that night was at the Nothing New coffee shop at Riverbanks, a sprawl of restos in what used to be a textile mill. The coffee shop's called Nothing New because, as former mayor **Bayani Fernando** said, nothing in it was new—it was built from surplus construction parts, the Fernandos being old-timers in the construction business. This riverside reminds me of the quays in Singapore—only better, Fernando said, because no billions were spent—and the iron grill art of the café balconies brings to mind the late 19th-century homes in New Orleans.

Promenade

What surprised Ethel and me was what lay beyond this mini-mall. Below is a promenade by the river which really has promenaders and picnickers; it is that clean. It's been decades since I saw picnickers in Metro Manila; it's as if you have to be really desperate to picnic in the city, even at Rizal Park—most especially Rizal Park. But here they were in the Riverbanks promenade—people just taking a stroll or picnicking in the post-holiday air. We saw a sign that said littering would be fined P100. We saw no trash around; apparently the sign was taken seriously.

Without much thought, we took the offer of **Marides Fernando**, the mayor and Bayani's youngish wife, to take the boat taxi sailing down the river. A boat ride in Metro Manila?! How *jologs* (don't make me explain *jologs*; it'll take a book to do it. Just accept that here, by *jologs*, I mean simple local-color thrill; in short what your and my kids, and the 2bU! staff wouldn't be caught dead doing)!

NERIC and Doreen Pacannuayan at Vivere Suites

THE BRIDE with uncle Larrie Silva

MINA Northcott and son Matthew

LYDIA with Mila Espina, Dading Clemente, Bert Gallardo, Toni Gregory and Carmita Francisco

There was nice chill in the air and an even nicer breeze—a post-holiday benefit. The night had a full moon—a post-holiday downer for non-romantics like Ethel. So on a sufficiently filled boat, we sailed down Marikina river that, come to think of it, didn't stink. Marides said it took them five years to clean up this river.

THE NEWLYWEDS with the bride's mother Lydia Castillo (second from left), uncle Maning Silva, and the groom's parents Belen and Steve Pacannuayan

> If this city can be clean and make things work, why not the rest of Metro Manila?

The riverside view is simple—homes and gardens on one side and, on the other, the jogger's trail the Fernandos built along the riverbanks, perked up with life-size animal figures. I remember **Alya**, who's from Marikina, telling me that people, including her, really jog the entire stretch. Along the riverbanks are senior citizens' park, the grotto and other public leisure spots.

Apparently, people take the river taxi either to get to the other side or just for fun. Ethel overheard some passengers saying they weren't bound for the other side but just wanted to enjoy the ride, which incidentally, had Pinoy pop (Such a thing? Well, *jologs* again.) playing that night.

Relocate squatters

You realize that it really doesn't take much to make the public happy. It can go for simple, basic pleasures—clean surroundings, a park to walk in, in short, wide open space for work-weary bodies and crowded minds. Marikina's clean and romantically lit river, fun boat rides and parks for all kinds of denizens sound like incredible stuff in this day and age, when mayors are more concerned with building squatter colonies, rather than habitable surroundings.

We learned that among the priorities of Bayani during his first term was to relocate the squatters, which was why the city now had a low-cost housing community complete with vegetable patches in front yards. "It's a matter of giving the squatters a sense of ownership, so they take care of the community."

Looking at the riverbanks today, you'd hardly believe that not so long ago, it was filled with squatters. Their relocation and the fixing of the drainage—Bayani is an engineer—must explain why flooding isn't so bad in this city anymore. "When I was growing up, it was getting flooded at least 15 times a year. But we don't get floods anymore—a miracle practically," said a friend in his 30s and who'd been telling me how impressed he was with how his city was run, enough to convince him that politics could get things done, after all—not bad work on today's cynical young.

We also noticed that the sidewalks were clean, for obviously the government had long reclaimed such public space. Bayani said it was a matter of supplanting the "*pulitika ng bangketa*" with the "*disiplina ng bangketa*." So, there could be such a thing as discipline among Pinoys *pala*.

It was interesting to note that instead of broom, the city used thongs to clean its public areas—the trash was sparse enough to pick up, unlike in the rest of the metropolis where it's dumped onto the sidewalks in mounds.

Marides, who's a hotel management graduate of Cornell, is not giving up on the city's shoe industry. Marikina has shoe caravans touring the provinces, from Bicol to Mindanao, to do direct selling in communities. She believes that Marikina's crafted shoes (the beadwork, for example) still have niche markets out there which can give her city's manufacturers immediate funding.

I really don't go much for politicians but how can you ignore the can-do spirit in Marikina? If this city can be clean, keep its squatters in check, and get things to work, why can't the rest of Metro Manila?

So, there we were, gliding on the river under the full moon but—Ethel mock-whined, "with empty arms," to which Ricky replied, "Now, Marides can't do everything."

GMA makeover

You must admit **Inno Sotto** did a good makeover of the President for the Time spread. Inno rushed **GMA**'s dark green coatdress in two days and she looked good in it—all power elegance, with a tan scarf to soften the look, and medium-heeled pumps in tan, instead of black, to give the illusion of uninterrupted height. It's sleek tailoring at its best. Inno did two coatdresses for the Time shoot, the other in red. **Hillary Clinton**'s style spin masters couldn't have done better.

News-tech media wedding

I was late (as usual) for the pre-Christmas wedding of the daughter of my good friend **Lydia Castillo**, but it was as if I didn't miss the church rites. At the reception at the new Vivere Suites in Alabang, they had an instant video of the nuptial rites at St. James Church in Alabang. There was **Doreen Castillo de Leon**, looking so dainty and pretty in a gown designed by her uncle **Larrie Silva**, walking down the aisle, escorted by her uncle, the veteran mediaman **Maning Silva**, then exchanging "I dos" with **Heinric** (Neric) **Pacannuayan**.

Of course, it helped that Maning and **Zeny** (who's Lydia's sister) are a media pair and veterans of news coverages for decades now. Their crew filmed the touching rites and provided an instant run at the reception. Usually at receptions guests are treated to the video-bio of the newlyweds; in the case of Neric and Doreen, we got that and more—the instant replay of the wedding. That was the first wedding we saw benefiting from news technology, if not the bride's family's news sense.

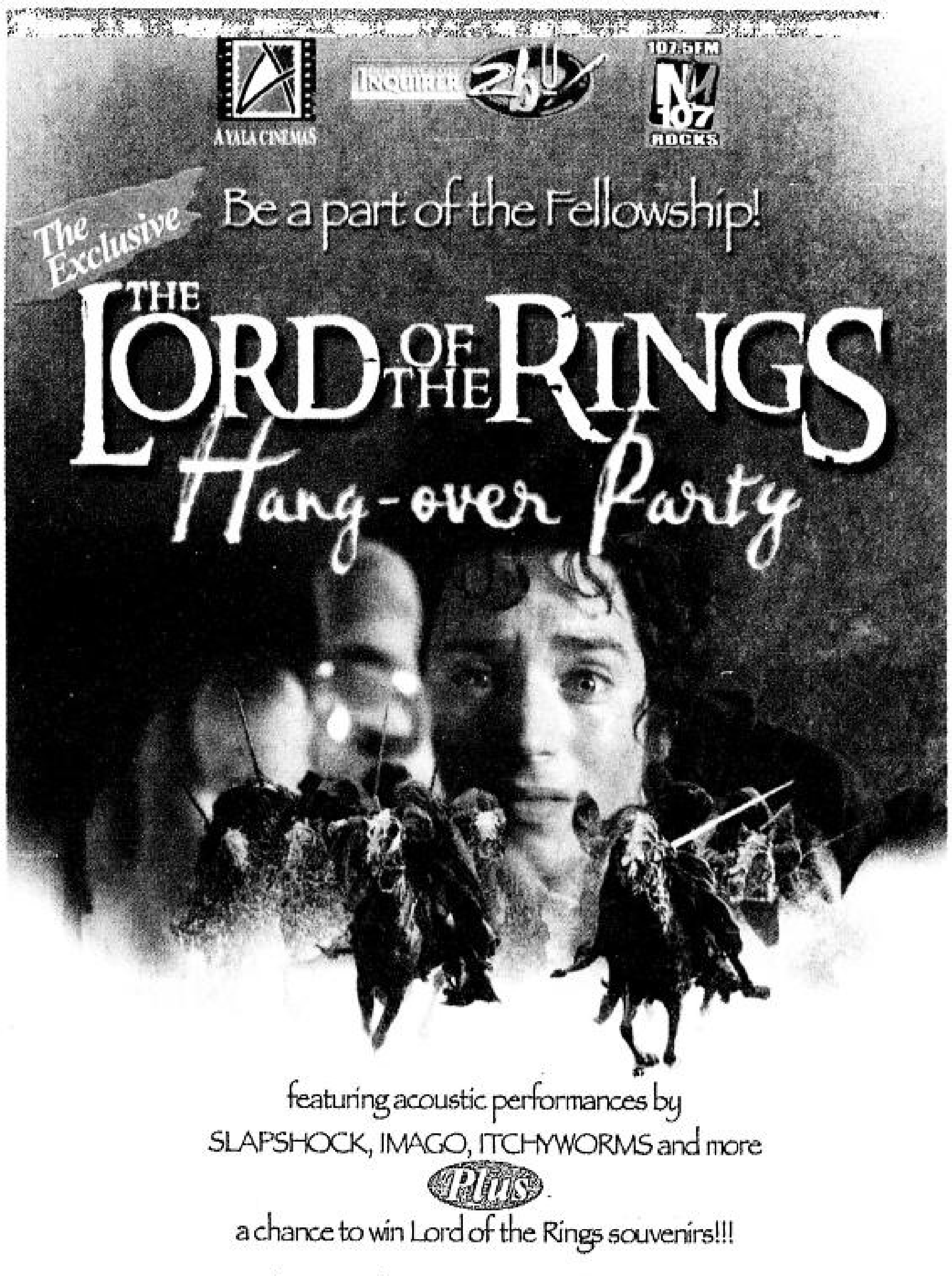
Lydia, as many know, is a corporate amazon-turned-culinary celeb, with her food column and award-winning cookbook. For the wedding, her other daughter **Mina Northcott** came home with husband **Graham** and son **Matthew** from Egypt, where Graham is a chef. Mina was matron of honor.

Neric and Doreen were colleagues at Honda and pursued a long-distance romance when Neric went to the University of Illinois for his MBA. Noric is the son of **Steve** and **Belen**. His sister **Princess** was bridesmaid. Larrie Silva designed a gown of Ottoman silk and French lace, which Inno Sotto executed. The motif was pink.

Among the principal sponsors were Lydia's bosom friends **Sonia Roco**, **Blanche Gallardo**, **Dading Clemente** and sister **Mila Espina**. The others were **Florencio Aldana**, **James Ong**, **Epifanio Joaquin** and **Rafael Ilagan**.

At our table was the Eating Club, a group of women executives bonded for decades now over, you guessed it, lunches—**Carmita Francisco**, **Charisse Chuidian**, **Toni Gregory**, **Mila Valenzuela** and **Marita Marcos**, who was here on a visit from Beijing where she's marketing director of Beijing Palace.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@link.com.ph



AYALA CINEMAS INQUIRER 2bU! 107.5FM NU 107 ROCKS
The Exclusive
Be a part of the Fellowship!
THE LORD OF THE RINGS Hang-over Party
featuring acoustic performances by
SLAPSHOCK, IMAGO, ITCHYWORMS and more
Plus
a chance to win Lord of the Rings souvenirs!!!
January 26, Saturday, 7 pm, Glorietta 4 Cinema Lobby, Ayala Center, Makati City
To join the fellowship...
- listen to NU107
- check out the pages of Inquirer-2bU! on Wednesday, January 23
- call Ayala Cinema Links 7297777
- Log on to http://you.inq7.net
Brought to you by infocom

Course on stress-free living held tomorrow

INNER Space Brahma Kumaris offers Stress-free Living Course and The Inner Powers at 9-11 a.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m., respectively, tomorrow, at 7484 Bagtikan cor. Dao Streets, San Antonio Village, Makati City. Call 890-7960.

GOINGS ON

HOMECOMING. The Paulinian Alumnae Association of Manila invites all graduates of St. Paul College of Manila to its annual general alumnae homecoming on Jan. 27. Call Veronica Villanueva at 523-4259.

The Don Bosco Mandaluyong Alumni Association will hold its annual homecoming tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. at the Don Bosco Mandaluyong Campus. Call 531-6222/8081, local 1280.

FESTIVAL. Nayong Pilipino holds its traditional Ati-Atihan Festival to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Child, Señor Sto. Niño, at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the Tagalog Region. Several *ati-atihan* groups in Metro Manila participate in the festival. The public is invited to join in these annual traditional festivities. Call Nayong Pilipino at 832-3767 to 69.

BOOK LAUNCH. The Fr. Louie Hechanova Foundation will launch the book "Church, Politics and Transformation," tomorrow at 4 p.m. at Titus Brandsma, 24 Acacia Drive, QC. The book is a collection of essays written over three decades by Fr. Luis G. Hechanova, CSsR, a theologian and social activist. The week also marks his first death anniversary. The book, co-published by the foundation and the Claretians, will be sold at a 10-percent discount. E-mail louiefriends@yahoogroups.com or text 0917-5272911.

WORKSHOP. Center for Arts presents "Today Stagecraft Workshop." Everyone aged 16 years old and above can join the workshop. Courses include costume and makeup design, which will be held on Jan. 28-Feb. 1; and production, stage and sounds and lights management, Feb. 4-8. Call 727-8347 daily at 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Look for Ammie Sanchez or Blanche Dellera. Registration fee is only P500.

CONTEST. The Art Discovery and Learning Foundation Inc. will hold its first project painting contest (on-the-spot and submission) 9 a.m.-12 nn on Jan. 27, at the MAB Hall of the Philippine Heart Center, East Avenue, QC. Call Jimmy Navarro at 631-4921 or painter Fernando Sena at 925-8801 and 924-6425.

SEARCH. Bb. Pilipinas Charities Inc. (BPCI) presents the 2002 Mr. Philippines World, a male beauty contest open to Filipino citizens 17-25 years old. Qualification screenings are held 2-6 p.m. every Monday to Friday until Jan. 29, at the Bb. Pilipinas Secretariat, South Gate, Araneta Coliseum. Final screening will be on Jan. 29, at the VIP Room of the Araneta Coliseum while the 2002 Mr. Philippines-World finals will be held on Feb. 9. Call 911-3101, local 8352/8321.

DENNIS Lustico (professional). Fashion forward

BONG Lazo (professional). Added style through textured accents

CHRISSIE Matheson (student). Back to black evening gown

AVEL Bacudio (professional). Cut above the rest monochromatic wear

Fashion's young guns in the making

By Camille Cruz–Reyes
Contributor
Photos by Chito Vecina

THE PHILIPPINE International School of Fashion (PISF) of St. Scholastica's College (SSC) held a fashion show to mark its first anniversary and display the works of its students. The works featured the creative process: from sketching to draping, cutting and sewing down to the final execution.

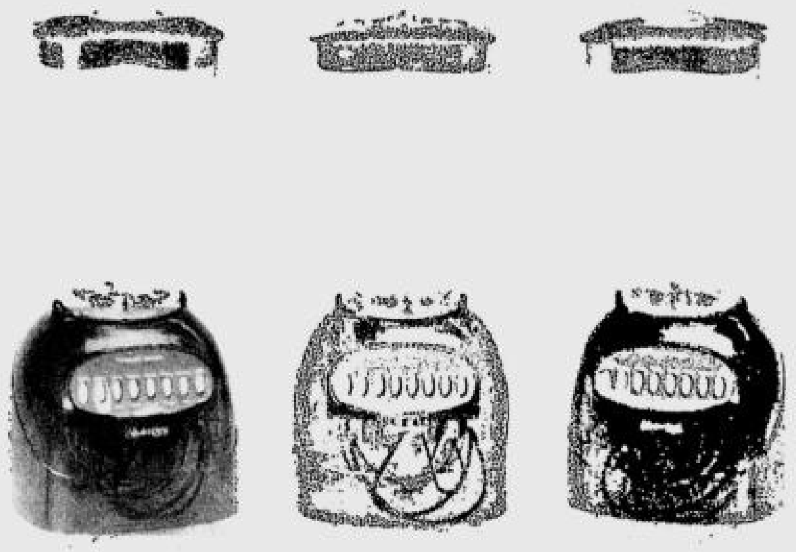
PISF is a collaboration between SSC and the La Salle Group, a Canadian-based network of international institutions that specialize in education and professional personnel training, consulting, research and development and technology transfer.

The two schools fulfill the needs of the fashion sector. They seek to provide a new generation of fashion leaders who are well trained in the most up-to-date technologies and in design, production and marketing.

Opening the show at the Enterprise Center were senior designers Renée Salud and Chanon Pamaong. Their original creations were followed by Dennis Lustico, Avel Bacudio and Raul Ramirez.

The students, only on their first year of a two-year program, designed pieces according to their vision of fashion in the Philippines. Chrissie Matheson favored long evening gowns with glitter, silver mixtures and feathers. For variety, she had turtleneck-styles in combination with formal attire. Grace Paguila developed designs according to striking color themes, such as green and purple, in basic separates. Jennifer Young presented an interesting salmon and gray basket weave piece for texture in clothing. Ivan Pajares took the wild side and attached a raccoon-like detail on his evening gown. He chose bright hues, like violet, for his other pieces and contrasted a long dress with a hipster belt.

You'll have an instant crush on these beauties...



The New Osterizer Translucents. These 14-speed blenders are packed with 600 watts of ice-crushing power, a dynamic blade design that crushes ice to smithereens. An exclusive all metal drive for years of smooth operation and a 6-cup break-resistant jar. Available in these cool colors: grape, blueberry and strawberry.

Oster
Blending Quality with Convenience

OSTER IS DISTRIBUTED BY FOCUS GLOBAL INC. Pioneer corner Reliance Sts., Mandaluyong City. Tel: 634-6587, Fax: 634-6738. **SERVICE CENTERS:** • Coleman KitchenAid Service Center-Robinson's Galleria, Telefax: 632-9145 • Park Square, Makati, Telefax: 892-9019 • Alabang Town Center, Tel: 850-7854 • SM Megamall, Tel 634-0648 • Caro & Mario, Cebu, Tel: (032) 233-4525 • Golden Bell Davao, Tel: (082) 222-6550 and Golden Bell Zamboanga, Tel: (062) 991-1065. **METRO MANILA OUTLETS:** Evershine Appliance • Home Quest • Nazareno General Merchandise • RTC Emporium • Rustan's Department Stores • Sta. Lucia East Department Store • Stan Marketing • The Landmark • Worldwide. *Write us to receive your FREE Oster product catalogue.*

"I'm No.1"

[illegible] it's okay to consider myself, my life and health my No. 1 priority [illegible] because I know that if I take care of myself, I can take better [illegible]

[illegible] glad Insular Life created 10-Star Life. It's a basic life plan where [illegible] disability benefits can be added to suit my needs. It simplifies things too [illegible] plan takes care of things I consider very important to myself so I'm free [illegible] for others. For as little as P70/day, I get the following benefits:

- P1M in life insurance benefit for my loved ones (LIFE)
- Comprehensive disability coverage (DISABILITY)
- Daily hospitalization income benefit. For hospitalization due to dread disease, daily hospitalization [illegible] will be doubled (HEALTH)

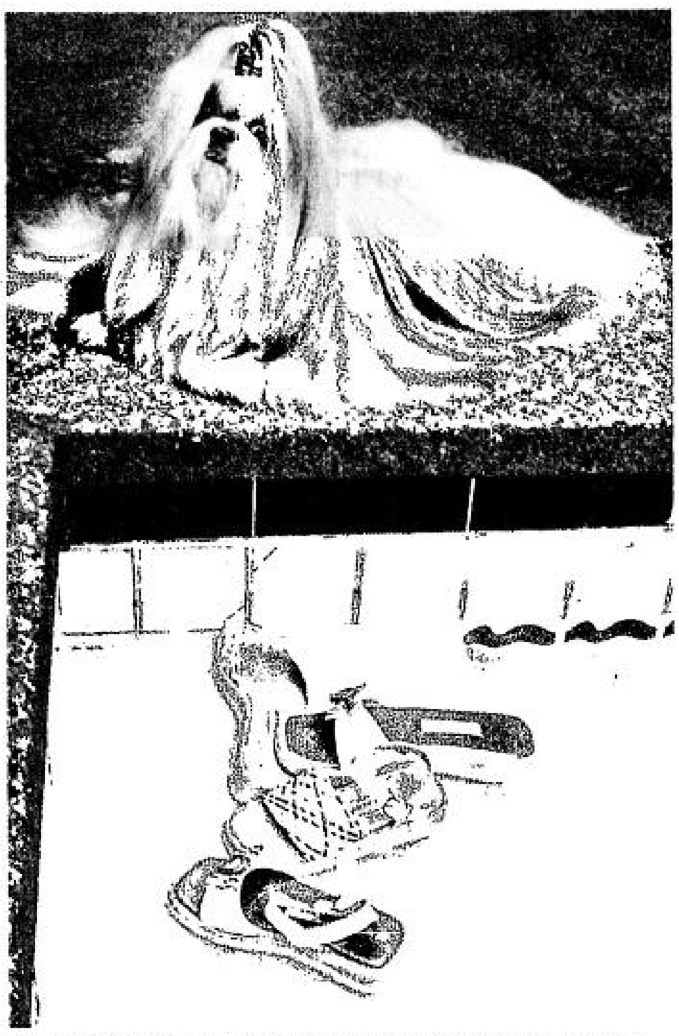
[illegible] only ten more years of paying my premium [illegible] the rest of my life [illegible]

INSULAR LIFE
10-STAR
life plan
It's my life, I'll plan it however I want to.

Yes, I want to be No. 1!
Send me information about INSULAR LIFE 10-Star Life!
Name: ____
Mailing Address: ____
Tel. No. ____ Age: ____ Birthday: ____
e-mail address: ____ Mobile phone number: ____
Clip this form and fax to (632)771-1902 or mail to Insular Life. PDIIF

INSULAR LIFE
Insular Life Corporate Centre, Insular Life Drive,
Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, 1781 Muntinlupa City
Tel. No. 771-1818 • www.insularlife.com.ph

When someone depends on you, you can depend on Insular Life.



MULTICOLORED straw slides with leather insteps in solid colors for mother and daughter

The lilt and lissomeness of a Lila

Lila Almario makes sure your feet slide or fly in style

Photos by Chito Vecina
VISUAL CONCEPT BY ALBERT AVELLANA

SHOE designer Lila Almario started out with custom-made shoes for weddings and special occasions. Because of the big demand for her feminine styles, she has ventured into retail. The sexy, delicate styles of the formal shoes have been carried over to the footwear for office and casual wear. They look like local versions of Manolos but cost just a fraction of the price of the designer shoes. The toes and heels are either pointed or tapered to look sexy.

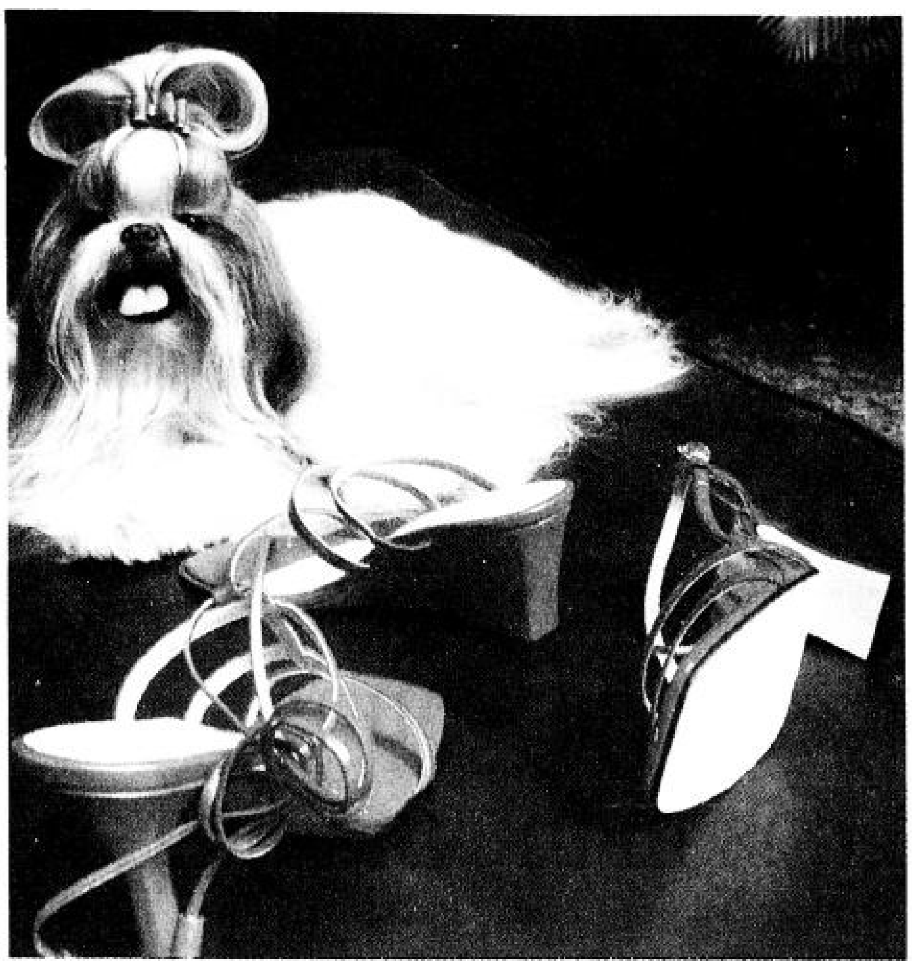
But Almario insists, "They're sturdy. Steel shanks are imported from the United States because the local ones bend. We try to get the best materials."

Although she uses local leather for the instep, the leather lining is imported because imported leather provides comfort. "The feet can breathe and you don't get allergies," she says.

Almario developed recently the cone heel using local wood. You won't get boring browns. The store offers colors as basic as camel, fuchsia, red, lemon yellow and mustard. When the Lila Almario store (tel. 898-1838) opened at Rockwell Power Plant, the most saleable style was in chartreuse.

The calves don't hurt after wearing high heels all day. "The advantage of being a woman designer is that you use the products and you can correct defects immediately," says Almario.

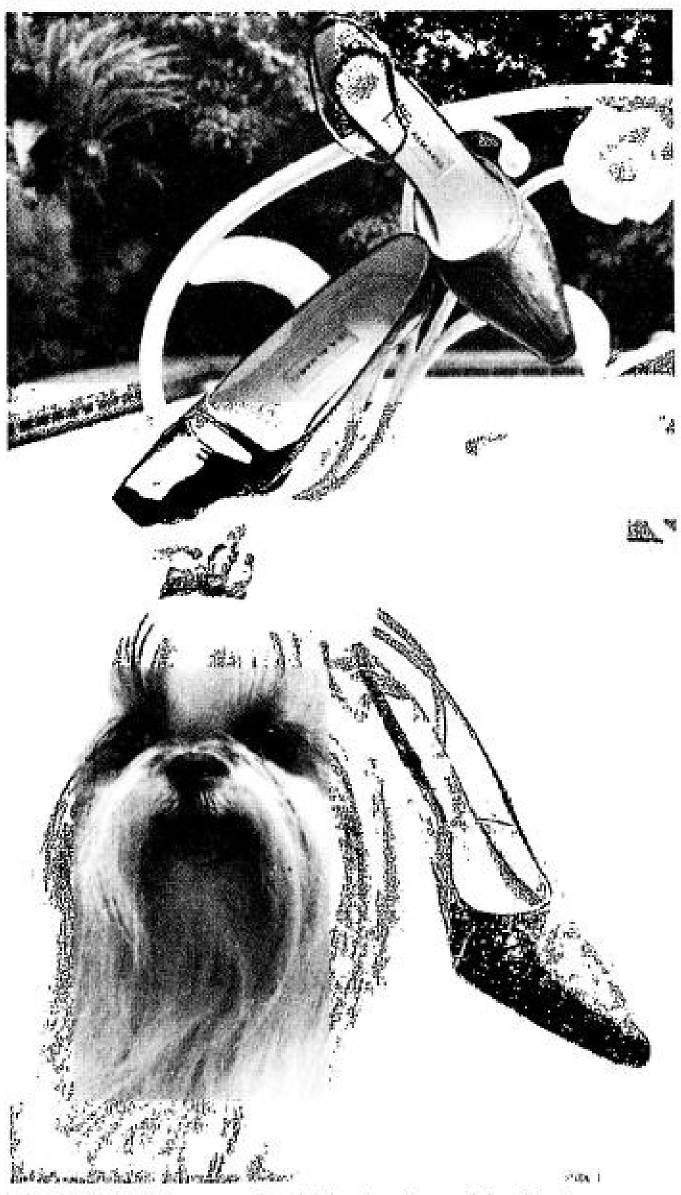
The shoes are great for women whose feet hardly touch the ground (their lifestyle revolves around getting in and out of Expeditions). For debutantes, brides or women whose feet are over size 9, Almario can still produce dream shoes.



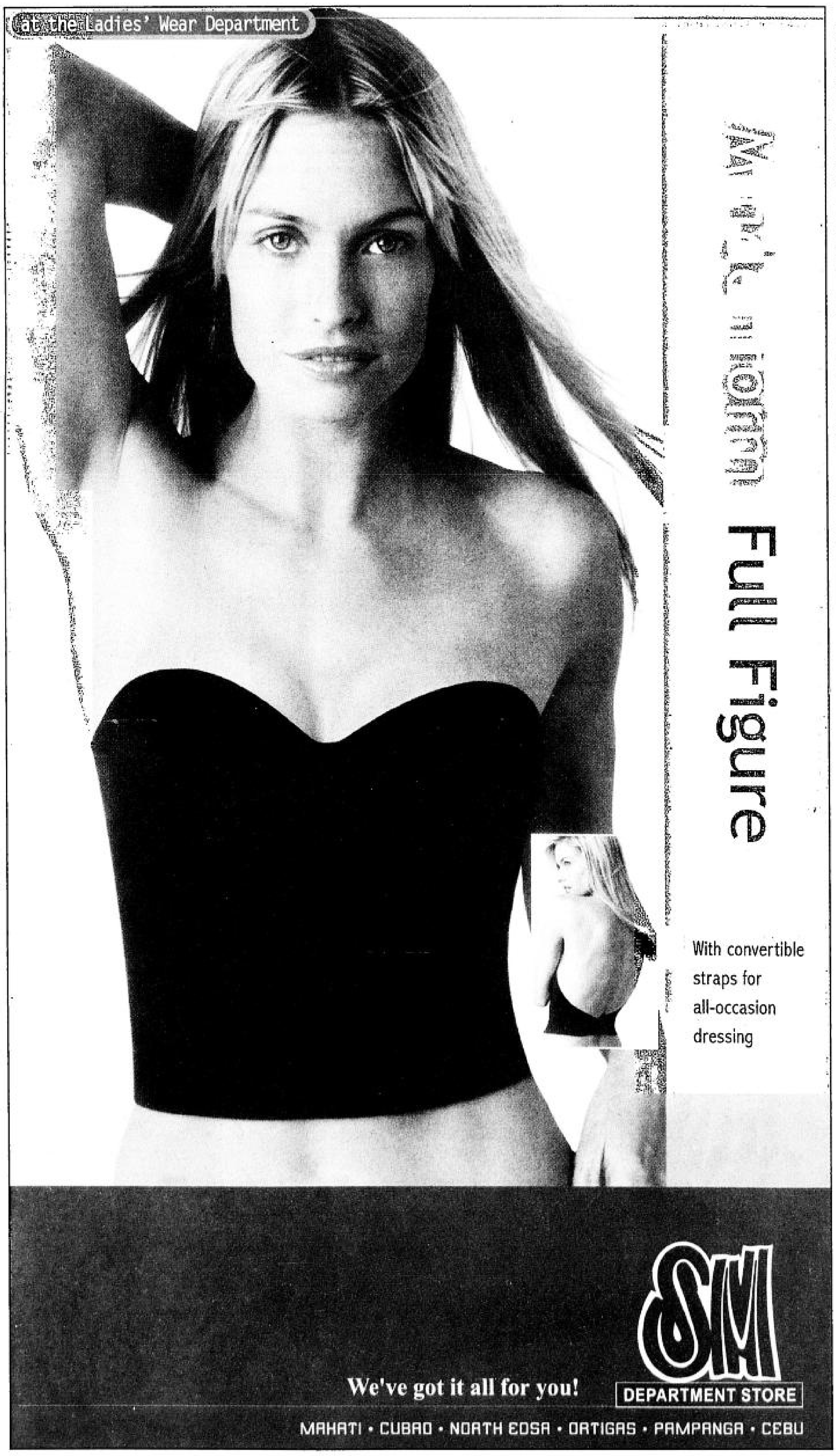
KID leather and calf leather high-heeled sandals

MODELS: GRAND CHAMPION HONG KONG SHIH TZU (POOLSIDE PHOTO) OWNED BY ARDY AND JANE CHUA SING. CHAMPIONS FRANK, GORGE AND PUPPY DELY OWNED BY DR. FROILAN SANTOS

COMBINING textures and colors: Black-and-brown crocodile-embossed patent leather with cigarette heels, white kid mules with pewter leather inserts and square heels in calf leather, lizard skin mules and lizard and kid mules



VARIATION of the pump: Ostrich leather shoes with ankle straps, patent leather tapered toe for the office, and satin slingback

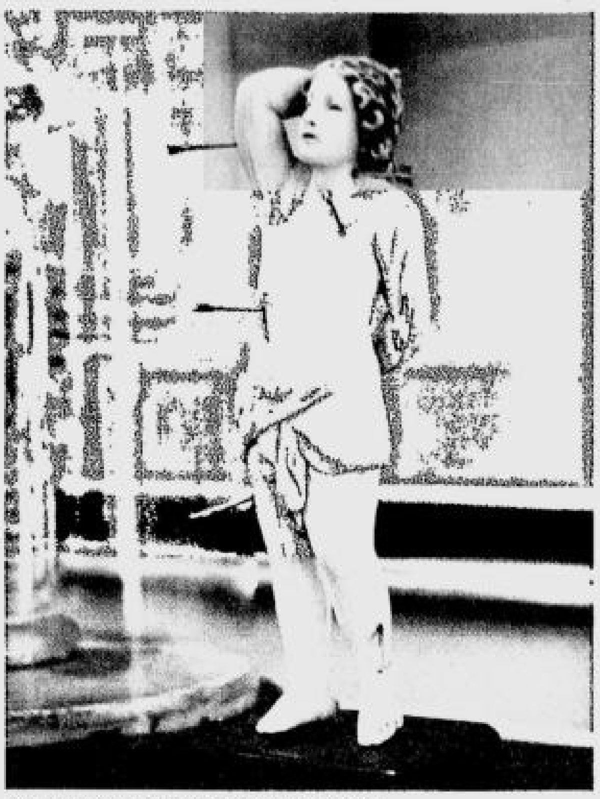

at the Ladies' Wear Department
Full Figure
With convertible straps for all-occasion dressing
SM
We've got it all for you!
DEPARTMENT STORE
MAKATI • CUBAO • NORTH EDSA • ORTIGAS • PAMPANGA • CEBU

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

For feedback, text us at (0919)661-2337 or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE

Home

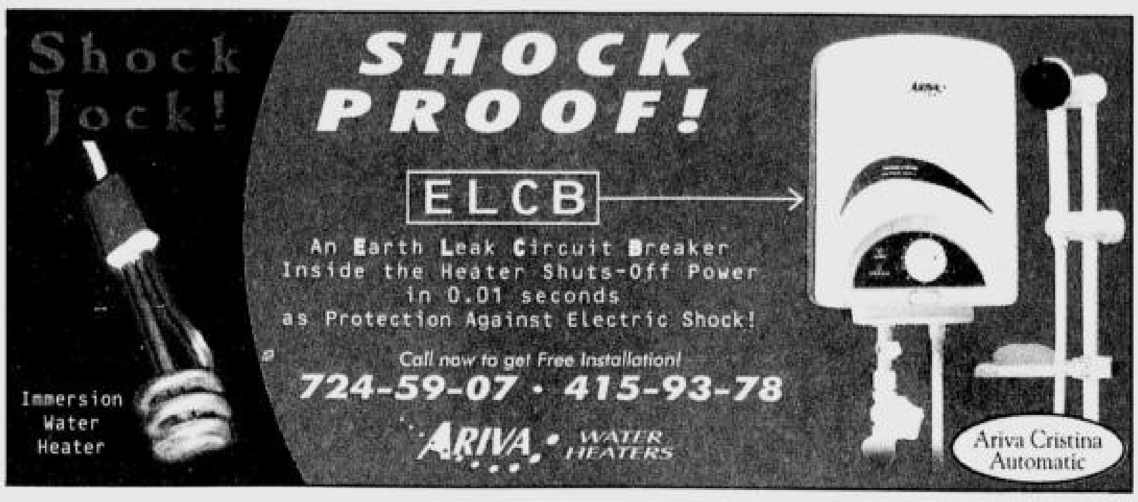


18TH-CENTURY solid ivory figure of San Sebastian with solid gold arrows was included in the 1990 exhibit "Images of Faith: Religious Ivory Carvings from the Philippines," Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena

Less is more

(Story on page D2)

Learn a décor philosophy from Joe Mari Treñas: Use furniture sparingly and combine antique and modern pieces of the same high quality



SHOCK PROOF!

ELCB

An Earth Leak Circuit Breaker Inside the Heater Shuts-Off Power in 0.01 seconds as Protection Against Electric Shock!

Call now to get Free Installation!

724-59-07 • 415-93-78

ARIVA • WATER HEATERS

PAINTING FOR KIDS AND ADULTS

(In Makati)

by *PIA RIVERA*

Graduate-Instituto d' Arte Lorenzo de Medici, Florence-Italy

Babes #817-8495/ 894-3928

or Text 0917-5331336

This Valentines Day, add extra ***sweetness*** *to your message!*

Send a specially designed

candy and chocolate bouquet

A unique floral arrangement of candies and chocolates that will bring out the sweetest smile. Also ideal for other special occasions

Sweet Thoughts Gift Shop

2nd Flr, FBR Arcade, 317 Katipunan Ave.

Quezon City (in front of Ateneo)

Tel. 433-0609; 0917-4787034

E-mail:sweetthought@edsamail.com.ph

(Open Monday-Saturday 10AM-7PM)

Bring this ad to our shop and get a 10% discount

HEALTH WATCH

YOUR FRIDAY HEALTH GUIDE

HealthMED DIAGNOSTIC CORPORATION

1481 G. Masangkay St. Sta. Cruz, Manila

www.healthmed.ph

LAB EXAM-ROCHE INTEGRA 400 CHEMISTRY
3D ULTRASOUND, 2D ECHO WITH DOPPLER
X-RAY, ECG, DRUG TEST, ETC 6:30AM-6:00PM
☎ 251-3361•251-3594 Fax: 252-7154

BODY WELLNESS AROMATHERAPY & REFLEXOLOGY

For Men and Women

"Give your body the break it deserves"

Tel. 372-3403

Paramount HEALTH & FITNESS

GYM • AEROBICS • SPA

AVAIL OUR X-MAS PROMO

PERSONAL TRAINING, FITNESS EVALUATION, PHYSICAL REHABILITATION, PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELL BEING

813-8977 • 813-7643

Beauty & Slim Center

FRANCHISE WELCOME!

242-5165;242-5176;243-1617

30 % DISCOUNT ON ALL SERVICES

- FACE & BODY BLEACHING
- BUST IMPROVEMENT
- HEIGHT INCREASE
- SLIMMING PROGRAM
- FACIAL & HAIR GROW
- DENTAL BRACES & OTHERS

SkinZone

50% OFF ON ALL SERVICES

SKIN AND SLIMMING TREATMENT

☎ 687-3032

Discovery Spa

636-8899 / 635-2222

CLUB MEMBERSHIP
FITNESS & PERSONAL TRAINING
PROGRAM CLASSSES
MASSAGE
FACIAL & BODY TREATMENT

REMBRANDT SPA

REMBRANT HOTEL

#26 T. MORATO EXT. Q.C.

☎ 373-3333 LOC. 700/701

25% OFF

ON SALT SCRUB BODY TREATMENT NOW ONLY P 750 PLUS A FREE POUCH OF EXFOLIATING SALT PROMO PERIOD JAN 26-31 '02

ADVERTISE YOUR HEALTH PRODUCTS/SERVICES AT NOMINAL COST [illegible]

WEIGH LESS CENTER

Claudine and Ara
MENDEZ MEDICAL GROUP
With 11 branches to serve you!

Body & Face by Mendez

Free use of day spa and massage when you enrol*

please call for more details*

WEIGH LESS CENTER & SPA, 31-G Roces Ave., Q.C.

373-0766 / 374-2437 / 371-8886

371-8887 / 373-3365 / 373-3366

ALL CLIENTS ARE SCHEDULED BY APPOINTMENT*

TALK 'N TEXT GSM

Load 'N Win!

Wow! Cool!

Congratulations to the winners of Rayban & Killer Loop Shades sa third draw ng Talk 'N Text Load 'N Win!

5 Winners of Rayban Sunglasses worth P6,000

RODRIGO GERNALA	LAS PIÑAS CITY
TALJINDER SINGH	PASAY CITY
HANSEL SY	PASAY CITY
* 09197533304	
* 09197640463	

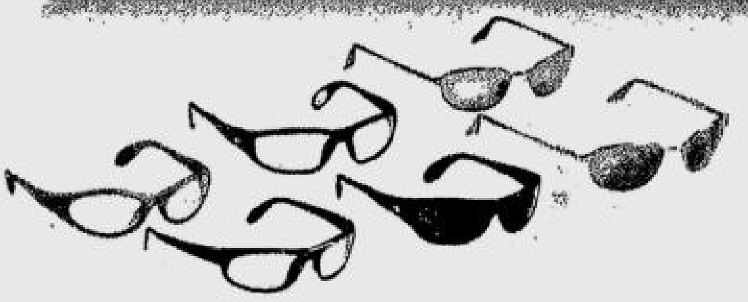
20 Winners of Killer Loop Sunglasses worth P3,000

EMERENCIANA TORRES	MALOLOS, BULACAN
MA. LYRA MALABAYABAS	LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA
CARLYN ENRIQUEZ	PANDAN, ANGELES CITY
DELIA CLAVEL	MOLO BALUARTE, ILOILO CITY
RENATO MARTIN	BAYBAY, LEYTE
CRESENCIO VITO T. ORPILLA	BAUANG, LA UNION
MAURICE ANN CRUZ	MARIKINA CITY
EDITHA LIM	BOGO, CEBU
JONATHAN A. LY	QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
JEFF DUVALL	ANGELES CITY
VILMA ERNI	NAIC, CAVITE
ROSA BARTOCILLO	ANILAO, ILOILO
* 09197861484	
* 09197670748	
* 09197499438	
* 09187368504	
* 09187069425	
* 09187854162	
* 09187675874	
* 09197393718	

60 Winners of Killer Loop Sunglasses worth P1,500

NIDA DACILLO	MABALACAT, PAMPANGA
JOSEFINO A. DACULONG	OLONGAPO CITY
AMADA BALUD	PASAY CITY
VICTOR BALAJADIA	BAGUIO CITY
JIMMY L. TORMIS	ZAMBOANGA CITY
MAUREEN MAURICIO	TONDO, MANILA
RONNY IBRAHIM	ZAMBOANGA CITY
CESAR CALUYA	TARLAC CITY
ALFREDO ASTROLABIO	MALIBAY, PASAY CITY
CHRISTINE PANES	NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
PINKY GALANO	JARO, ILOILO CITY
JENNIFER C. ABUTIN	TANSA, CAVITE
ANTONIO NAVALES	PASAY CITY
MAUREEN BELLEN	MAKATI CITY
WILLY DE LERADA	NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
HELICA JOYCE MACALINAO	CALOOCAN CITY
LILIAN LEGASPI CRASNO	DAVAO CITY
LYCA AMOR	CAMARINES SUR
BERNARDITA CANAYON	ALBAY, LEGASPI
EMMANUEL ANDRADE	CALOOCAN CITY
SERAFINA BAOANAN	PANGASINAN, URDANETA
LETICIA AUSTRIA	CALOOCAN CITY
JOSI DIMAISIP	LA PAZ, ILOILO CITY
MILAGROS FELIPE	IMUS, CAVITE
PONCIANO CAPIN	DAVAO DEL SUR
JULIANA HERMOSO	AGOHO, PATEROS
HELBERT BOHOL	OZAMIZ CITY
MA. CARMELA ALAJAS	BAGUIO CITY
* 09187955745	
* 09197494276	
* 09197824283	
* 09187635805	
* 09197708540	
* 09187150857	
* 09197401204	
* 09187859909	
* 09197795473	
* 09207051440	
* 09187583352	
* 09197864929	
* 09197863662	
* 09197234876	
* 09197523695	
* 09197215709	
* 09187665664	
* 09187680893	
* 09207582875	
* 09187468784	
* 09187186294	
* 09187929661	
* 09197308204	
* 09187469416	
* 09207084919	
* 09207018476	
* 09197115726	
* 09187889514	
* 09197603632	
* 09197388068	
* 09187842792	
* 09207817899	

* Winners with these numbers have until March 16, 2002 to receive confirmation from Piltel, so keep your lines open!



Kaya keep on loading Talk 'N Text cards for more chances of winning in the Grand Draw!

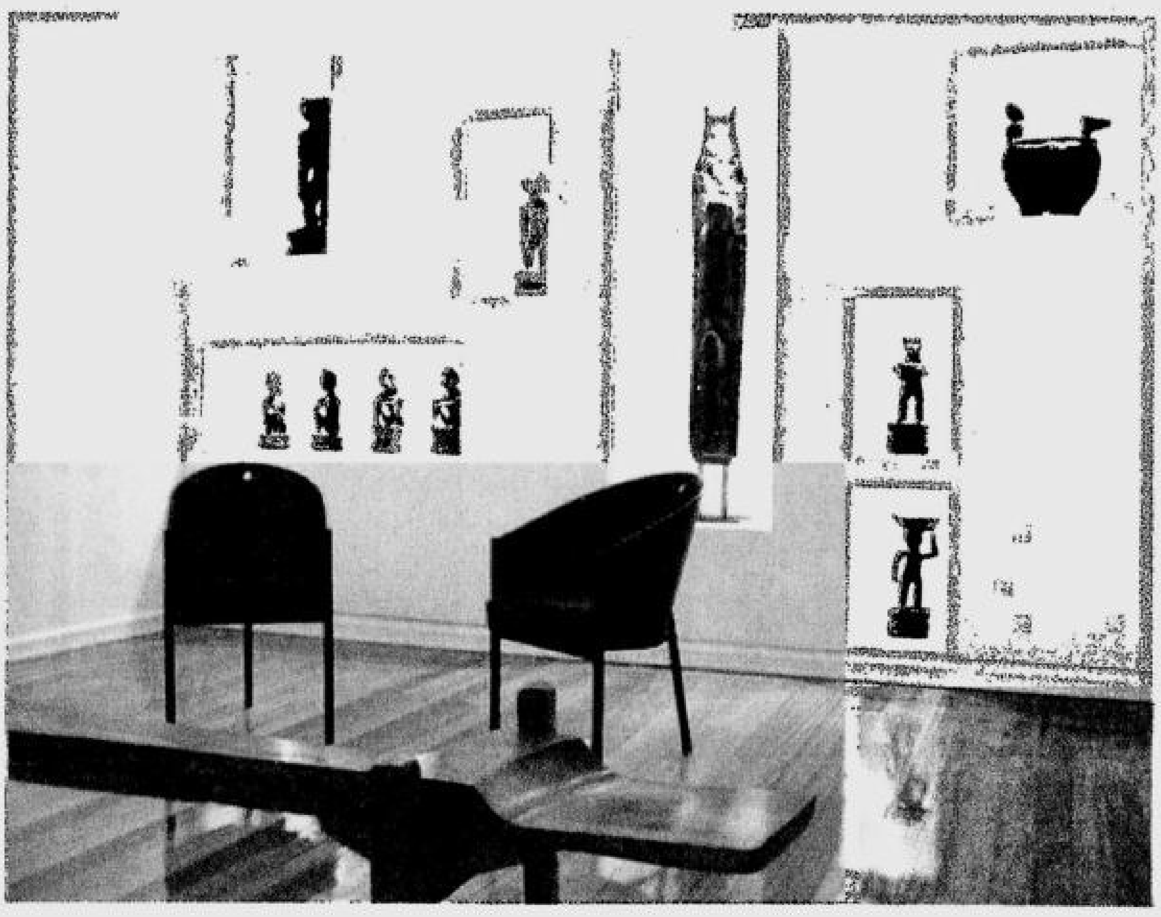
In cooperation with: Ray-Ban KILLER LOOP

Yan ang galing without overspending!

Per DTI-NCR permit no. 4002, series of 2001.

For inquiries, please call PILTEL Customer Hotline (02)848-8888 (GMA), (032)232-3200 (VIS/MIN) or 15003 from your Talk 'N Text cellphone.

POWERED BY THE SMART NETWORK



NICHES in the Ed Calma-designed *bulul* room display antique harvest gods (*bulul*), a ritual box (*punamhan*) and a door post. Costes chairs by Philippe Starck; bench/sculpture by Napoleon Abueva

ARCHITECT Ed Calma sits on this bench/ sculpture by Abueva, 1979. Sculpture on the ledge is an Ifugao ritual box (*punamhan*) carved like a sitting figure.

Less is more

By Avie Gochoco-Perez
Contributor
Photos by Chito Vecina
VISUAL CONCEPT: ALBERT AVELLANA

SOLAR Street in Makati has a jumble of house numbers that visitors have to virtually decode to reach their destination. Thankfully, upon reaching house no. 19, none of the jumble remains. Instead, Jose Mari Treñas' home, bathed in neutral beige from the roof down to the low iron see-through gate, is a neat, organized and restful kind of house. Nothing busy here.

The garage is empty of cars. All the better to lead attention to the longer than usual wooden antique bench, a *capiya*, beside the main door. Visitors sit there, Joe Mari points out, while waiting to be ushered into the house.

An antique colorful wooden statue in the round of St. Michael the Archangel holds fort beside the *capiya*.

"He guards the door," Joe Mari says. St. Michael holds up a shield "the size of a *platito*," the statue's owner laughs, pointing to the tiny wooden circle on the saint's left hand. The usual sword is missing from the raised hand, but Joe Mari isn't bothered, he appears thankful even. Imagine a burglar using such a sword on him if the sword were there, the homeowner almost shudders.

Time out

The lone boss in the house, this bachelor is a soft-spoken Ilonggo who is much energized by his home and the collections showcased in it. He is a Harvard Master of Laws graduate now on a sabbatical from lawyering. He appears today—lucky him—to be focused on simply living out the special thrills and pleasure his art pieces offer at home.

The lines of this home, acquired by his parents in 1980, are simple and streamlined. In 1990, interior designer Chito Antonio was called in to dress up the house. But in 1995, Joe Mari began undressing it to his taste.

The interiors are now bathed in white—even the slipcovers are in white canvas. This makes for a virtual blank canvas to best showcase the owner's art collection, which ranges from tribal art in the form of primitive rice gods (*bulol*) to 2,000-year-old terra-cotta burial jars unearthed from Maitum in South Cotabato, to 18th-century Philippine classic wooden furniture and ivory *santos*, to abstract and expressionist oil paintings.

Before Joe Mari started undressing the house, it was "a regular Chito Antonio house" with, among other things, wallpaper in beige.

"It is a Chito Antonio house that grew up," he laughs. "I sort of edited a lot." He ripped off the wallpaper, "painted out" the moldings and changed the furniture.

"I slip-covered everything in canvas, painted everything white, then brought out the art."

Ed Calma's room

Yes, if anything, Joe Mari's house is a home for art. It is such that one even asks if he actually lives in it. There are no knickknacks, no clutter, no vestiges of an unkempt way of living. There is a lot of maturity, discipline and control in this art lover to keep his home looking like it does.

The rectangular 18th-century narra table that seats eight in the dining room is left naked in all its wooden glory. It is thus easy to marvel at the expanse of the tabletop and the curves of the wild boar heads that make up the feet of the table.

One wouldn't find a vase of flowers atop the table, or even a table runner. This treatment, one might say, is very un-Filipino in restraint, considering the Filipino's well-known fear of empty spaces. But Joe Mari is so confident about his style that perhaps he doesn't need what may be considered props to call attention to his collection. He doesn't acquire pieces for mere decoration. He envisions the relationship a piece can have with other pieces. Only when he has found that relationship do the pieces go out on display together.

Ed Calma, architect and interior designer whom Joe Mari brought in to do his *bulol* room, is all praise for Joe Mari's style. "He combines pieces of the same artistic quality. He is not into mere decorating."

And so it is that this lawyer combines a Fernando Zobel abstract painting in predominantly bright yellow to backdrop a collection of five antique *santos* in ivory and wood. He places the *santos* atop an 18th-century *kamagong* and *narra* vestry cabinet used in its past life as repository of bishop's vestments. It has a bishop's seal on the fine grain of its wood. Silver knobs cling to the drawers. The grouping has art objects from different periods but Joe Mari pulls them together so that the objects enhance each other.

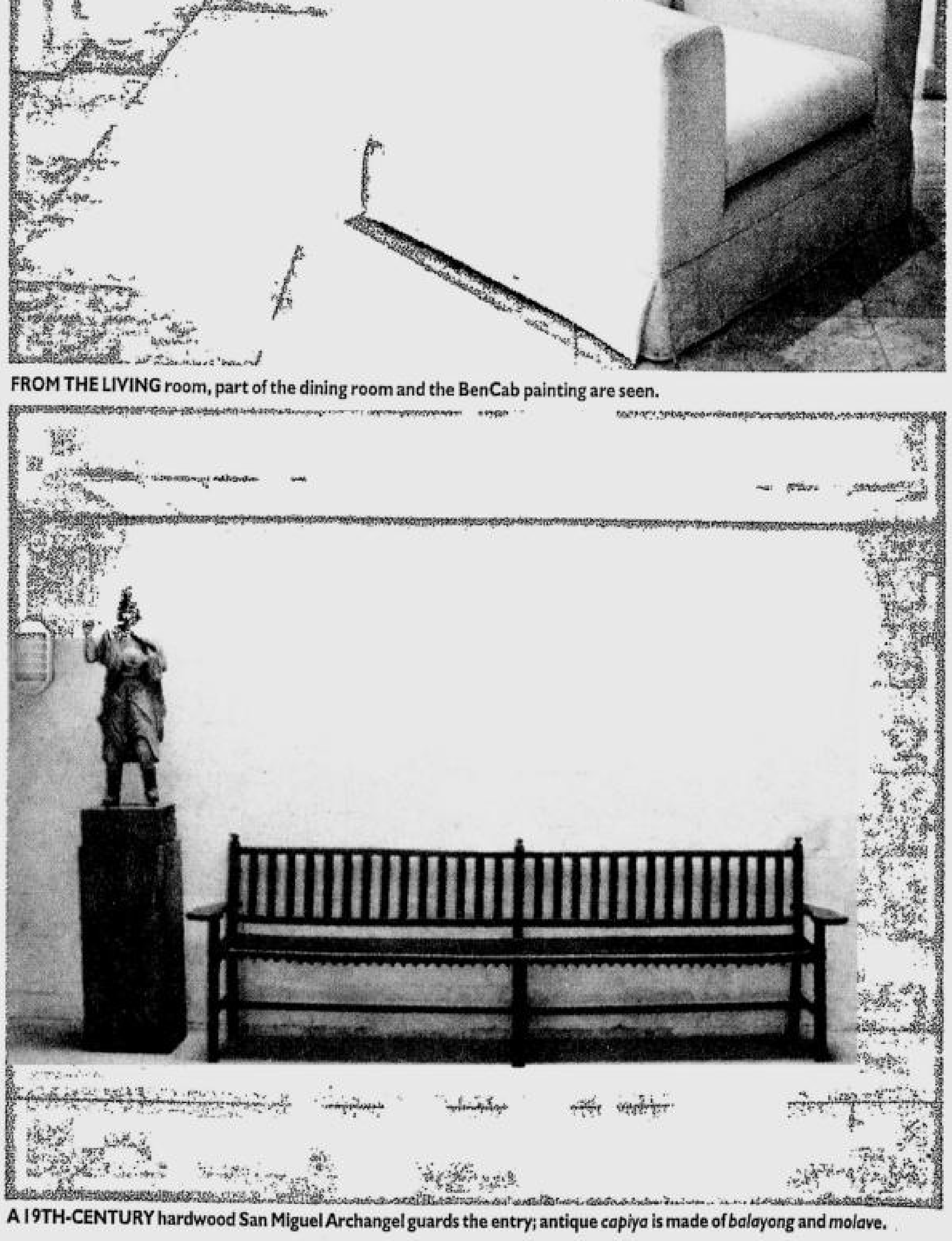
Another grouping features a clean-lined 18th-century altar table (was it the "*demonyo* table" because of the shape of its feet?) backdropped by Ang Kiukok's version of the "Pieta" in oil. A modern vase atop the altar table completes the grouping.

"The jagged lines of the Kiukok go with the jagged lines of the vase," Calma points out. Joe Mari's mother, very much into art herself, bought the Kiukok in 1974 for a mere P2,500. Back then, folks were after Amorsolos, Manansalas, not Kiukoks, Joe Mari says. Due to his mother's taste and foresight, "that beautiful version of the 'Pieta'" could fetch for Joe Mari today P1.7 million if he sold the painting.

In another room, a canvas slip-covered couch is surrounded by three Laos whose frames echo the lines and color of the Berenguer coffee table of the '60s. "His selection is not arbitrary. He really matches the pieces," Calma says of Joe Mari. A Charlie Co oil of a religious scene done in the

FROM THE LIVING room, part of the dining room and the BenCab painting are seen.

MIXING PAST AND PRESENT. Late 18th-century *narra* dining table from Leyte has legs carved like wild boars' heads. Chandelier and dining chairs by Philippe Starck go well with the side table, which is an 18th-century *balayong mesa-altar* from Batangas. Painting by Fernando Amorsolo complements the Ming bowl.



A 19TH-CENTURY hardwood San Miguel Archangel guards the entry; antique *capiya* is made of *balayong* and *molave*.

Garden show opens tomorrow

THE MANILA Seedling Bank Foundation marks its 25th anniversary this year. To commemorate the event, the Philippine Horticultural Society will hold an exhibit of the country's best collection of ornamental plants Jan. 26-Feb. 4

Show chair and first vice president Peejay Nepomuceno said there would be more than 20 participants in the booth competition. Hundreds of plants will vie for various prizes. Major prize is a round-trip airline ticket to Hong Kong courtesy of show co-chair Dory S. Bernabe.

The show will also feature a collection of paintings by Hugo Jr. and Esperanza Lubag of Morong, Rizal.

A booth dedicated to the late Eric Purificacion, a young and accomplished orchid breeders who died in an accident last year, will display his award-winning phalaenopsis butterfly orchids.

More than 70 nursery growers, traders, importers, breeders and horticultural and agricultural companies will sell plants and garden-related products at big discounts while lectures and demonstrations on aspects of horticulture will be held Jan. 26-Feb. 3.

IN THE LANAI, a 1985 dyptich by Lao Lianben is paired with rattan furniture designed and produced by architect Chito Antonio. Jar is Ming period, Swatow blue and white.

expressionist style hangs on the other wall.

A giant Bencab modernist painting of a woman clad in a billowy, windblown robe ("he did it for me," offers Joe Mari), enhances the landing of perhaps the most striking architectural feature in the Treñas home: the cantilevered stairway made up of thick solid narra slabs. A handrail on one side does not hold up the stairs, Calma points out, but is probably there more for the safety of the people negotiating the stairs. The narra steps taper oh-so-gently on the underside of one end, maybe to lighten the weight on the hanging end, Calma says.

Restful place

Does it end in *oro* (gold)?

"I don't know," the owner replied.

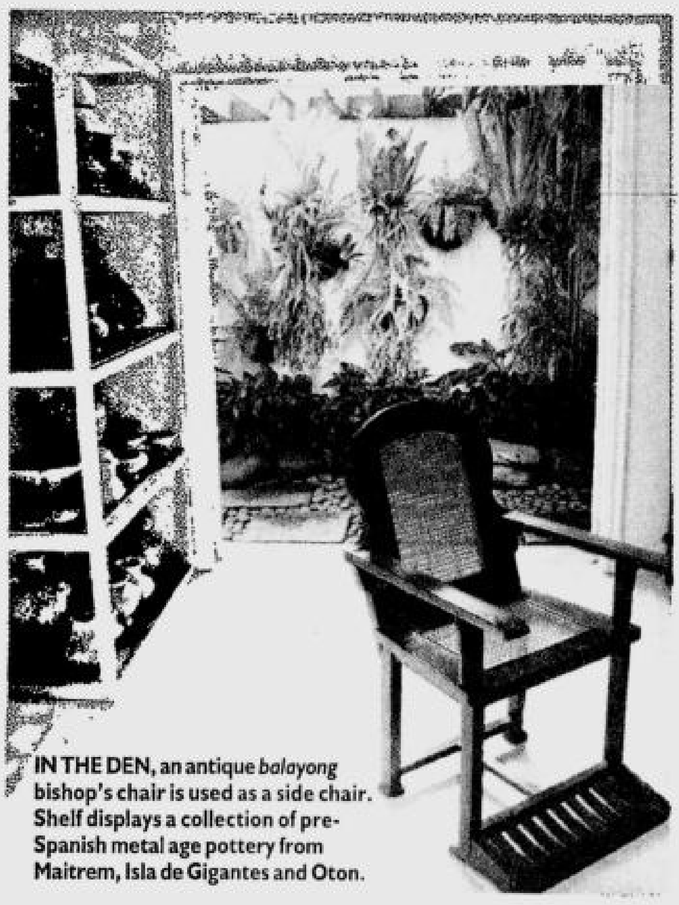
After a few seconds, he is delighted to hear that, yes, the stairs end in *oro*, being 16 in all. Old folks' superstition is that stairs should end in *oro* or in even the next best, *plata* (silver), but never *mata* (death), when counted in that order. Still, Joe Mari is not one to give such old folks' tales more than an amusing thought.

He has a collection of *bulol* complete with the patina of age, including dried-up blood originally poured on the images as offerings. That would make some who do not share his interest in these items as works of art cringe. Is he at all uncomfortable with what some would warn to be spirits of these objects possibly haunting his house?

"I give them a restful place. I give them respect," Joe Mari says of the antique objects in his home. The thought of stirring up anything evil, if any, attached to the antique objects has never crossed his mind.

The "restful place" for the *bulol* consists of a room on the second

LESS/p.D4



IN THE DEN, an antique *balayong* bishop's chair is used as a side chair. Shelf displays a collection of pre-Spanish metal age pottery from Maitrem, Isla de Gigantes and Oton.

A TIZIO lamp lights a painting of the Nuestra Señora del Rosario by Mariano Asuncion, called the dean of Philippine colonial religious painters, who painted in Manila in the 1880s. Antique *santo* with ivory head and hands is of the Madonna and Child.

UPBEAT ANG PINOY! UPBEAT SA NATASHA!
Natasha's
November - December 2001
Winners
To our winning Natasha dealers who remain upbeat in life and in business, our warmest congratulations!
Be a Natasha Dealer!
from left to right: **Juliana de Guzman**, 1st Top Group Seller, **Norma Imperio**, 2nd Top Group Seller, **Prima Tuting**, 3rd Top Group Seller, **Ma. Nelia Estayani**, 4th Top Group Seller, **Christopher Galdo**, 5th Top Group Seller, **Keith Jayson Hidalgo**, Top Recruiter, **Gilda de Guzman**, Best Credit Record
Natasha
makes your dreams come true.

Successful career
Long life
Zero love life
With 27% salicylic acid to remove the most stubborn warts.
Salicylic Acid
Duofilm Gel
The wart, corn and callus medication recommended by doctors worldwide.
Salicylic Acid
Lactic Acid
Duofilm Liquid
* Not for facial use.
STIEFEL
Research in Dermatology
Duofilm* is a product of Stiefel. A multinational company with over 150 years of experience and dedication to research in dermatology. For product inquiries, call our ACTION-AID HOTLINE at 1-800-10-STIEFEL (provincial), and 635-7346 (Metro Manila), Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-11:30 a.m. You can also e-mail us at barcilla@stiefel.com or sjavier@stiefel.com. Available at all mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide.
© 2002 Stiefel Philippines, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
DU-01-02-PH

Less is more

(From page D3)

floor Calma did up for Joe Mari. Horizontal and vertical niches, all in white, house variedly shaped and sized *bulol*. Diffused light shines on the *bulol* from the top of all but one of the niches to better capture the form of the *bulol*. The tallest *bulol* needed a spot light, instead of diffused light, for maximum effect.

The room's ceiling is all-white and bereft of any light fixture. Nothing detracts from the pieces being showcased. Only three pieces of furniture sit in the room: an Abueva long bench in smooth, sculpted hardwood—a Joe Mari acquisition years ago—and two Philippe Starck chairs in black. The Starck chairs echo the characteristic black of the *bulol*. The floor is a polyurethaned, shiny tongue-in-groove *tanguile* spread.

To prove that yes, he lives in this house despite its modern museum of art feel, Joe Mari opens the door to his bedroom across the *bulol* room. A lavishly carved four-poster bed, set in the diagonal, occupies about a fourth of the room. On one wall hangs an 1880 Madonna and Child gold-framed painting, inherited from his grandfather.

Ivory saints

A room next to the bedroom is going to be his next project: 2,000-year-old terracotta burial jars from South Cotabato and pieces of pre-Spanish clay pottery, one of which Joe Mari's mom acquired for a measly P30 long ago, might be the stars of that project. He "built around" that early acquisition of his mom, "playing around with shapes" and sizes of the pottery for his collection. He has a favorite piece: a water dropper in the form of a chicken.

In the den downstairs where the pottery collection sits on shelves set against a wall, two 19th-century bishop's chairs in rare *balayong* hardwood made in Batangas take center stage. As usual, the chairs prove that Joe Mari is after genuine, not decorative, stuff. "Joe Mari combines pieces of the same artistic quality... he is not decorating," says Calma. Particularly, Calma admires Joe Mari's appreciation of the history behind objects of yesterday, history that most "don't really bother about."

Indeed, Joe Mari was into ivory *santos*, ceramics, pottery, Philippine classic furniture and modern art when he discovered tribal art two years ago. On a visit to the Louvre in Paris, the poster for a portion of the exhibit on Asia featured, of all things, a Philippine *bulol*.

"It started me thinking. It's like African art and it's in the Philippines! I got excited," he recalls. Thankfully, he notes, some dealers have brought back some pieces of Philippine *bulol*, which had found their way to Europe back into the country.

"I now have 30 pieces. They were edited by Ed for the *bulol* room. The point was not to showcase everything but to have something in line with what I want—the minimal," Joe Mari says.

National treasures

Calma explains that as the city becomes more chaotic to live in, one's need for a restful environment is sharpened. It thus becomes "natural for people to go minimal."

Joe Mari is now content with his environment. He is happy with Calma's work on the *bulol* room. "When I have a dream house done, it's going to be done by him," Joe Mari smiles.

Meantime, this lawyer continues to marvel at the kind of art the Philippines has. "From tribal to pre-Spanish to colonial... where else can you get that range? It is astounding. Then you have modern art. We absorb Western art and translate it into Pinoy."

LIVING room contains a 19th-century vestry cabinet (vesteria) that was originally used to store priests' vestments (note bishop's seal in front drawer). 1969 oil painting by Fernando Zobel. Solid ivory figurines of Phil. Colonial ivory from the 18th and 19th century are the Virgin Mary, San Jose, Sto. Niño, San Sebastian and San Vicente Ferrer.

He volunteers that white ivory from Africa (as against yellow ivory from China) was shipped from Mexico to the Philippines. Filipino hands were taught to carve the ivory into exquisite pieces. Today, two such pieces are housed in a cathedral in Mexico and have become national treasures in that country.

Joe Mari concludes: "Wow, *ang galing ng Pinoy. Hanga ako.*" And does he show it, right in his home.

Sleeping in style

GO to bed in style with Renditions' Beidermeier Bedroom Set. This handsome bedroom collection is distinguished by the handmade solid brass and eborized wood posts.

The two-tone wood color combination preserves the Beidermeier design concept, which is defined by classic, simple lines and light woods highlighted by black accents, allowing it to mix easily with many styles.

The tall armoire is adaptable for use as linen closet or entertainment cabinet. This bedroom set is just one of the fine collections available at Renditions Furniture and Accessories at the 4/L Festival Supermall, Alabang, which opens a new wing on Jan. 27.

The expansion also marks the launching of exciting new designs. Renditions, which is owned and operated by Delco Wood Products Corp., a furniture maker specializing in well-crafted and exquisitely designed wood furniture, is known for its contemporary-classical furniture collections.

we'll take you there
CHÉ
DISH
PEPSI
ASK FOR MORE

Grab a Pepsi and get the chance to go with 3 friends to the U.S. and watch Britney Spears in concert! Just look under promo-marked crowns and you may win any of the following prizes:

GRAND PRIZE: Britney Spears Concert Tour Package

Bring 3 friends along and get to see a Britney World Tour 2002 concert inclusive of round-trip air tickets, accommodations and pocket money!

2nd PRIZE: Night Spot Tour Package

Bring 3 friends along and tour exciting night spots across Metro Manila in a chauffeured limousine! Get VIP treatment in these hot spots:

Thousands of FREE great-tasting Pepsi 355 mL! (contents only)

Plus, get a chance to win cool Pepsi Fun Treats like ring tones, graphics, music trivia and collectible Britney Spears World Tour posters by simply drinking a Pepsi and sending the code under the crown to 287 on your Smart mobile phone.

Hurry! Get a Pepsi and catch the Britney World Tour 2002 in the USA! Because only Pepsi can take you there!

Mechanics:

1) Simply buy any of the following: Pepsi-Cola (237 mL, 355 mL, 1000 mL), Seven-Up (207 mL, 355 mL, 1000 mL), Mirinda (237 mL, 355 mL) and Mountain Dew (355 mL).
2) Look under the crown, peel off the liner and get a chance to win any of the following prizes instantly: **Grand Prize: a Britney Concert Tour Package • Second Prize: a Pepsi Night Spot Tour Package • Free Pepsi 355 mL** (contents only).
3) To get a chance to win Pepsi Fun Treats (ring tone, graphic, music trivia or Collectible Britney Spears World Tour Posters), simply text the code under the crown to 287 on your Smart mobile phone. A computerized system will qualify and randomly draw winners from the text messages received and send back a message for the item won.
4) The Grand Prize and Second Prize may be claimed by bringing the winning crown and two (2) valid IDs to the Pepsi-Cola Products Philippines, Inc. (PCPPI) Head Office at Km. 29, National Road, Muntinlupa City.
5) The Free Pepsi may be claimed at designated redemption centers all over Metro Manila.
6) Pepsi Fun Treats (i.e. ring tones, logos and trivia) will be sent directly to the texter's phone. Collectible Britney World Tour Posters may be claimed by presenting the winning text message and one Pepsi crown or cap in any of the following Pepsi Sales Offices: Sumulong Avenue, Mambugan, Antipolo City • 2557 Balla Street, Pandacan, Manila • Sampaguita Drive corner Deparo Street, Caloocan City • 143 Mercedes Avenue, San Miguel, Pasig City • Pascual Potrero, Malabon • FTI Complex, Taguig • P. Sanchez Street, Sta. Mesa, Manila Km. 29, National Road, Muntinlupa City.
7) All winning crowns and text messages are subject to authentication by PCPPI personnel. Decisions made by PCPPI are final.
8) All prizes are tax-free and non-transferable. Consumers may only win once. Should a consumer win twice, he will have to forfeit the lesser value prize. Only the Grand Prize and Second Prize may be converted to cash.
9) PCCPI and Pepsico Beverages International (PBI) employees, their advertising and media agencies, third party suppliers and service providers and BFAD employees as well as their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.
10) Promo coverage is in Metro Manila only. Promo period is from January 14 to March 31, 2002. Last day of redemption is May 30, 2002.

SMS powered by: Information Gateway

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0953, Series of 2001

PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL ADVERTISERS

1ST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & INDUCTION OF 2002 OFFICERS

Len Delos Reyes, Account Manager

sprojects@inquirer.com.ph

Aries Espinosa, Editor

MESSAGES

CONGRATULATIONS to the new officers and members of the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (PANA) as they hold their 1st General Membership Meeting and Induction of 2002 Officers and Board of Directors.

Once again, I bid the entire PANA family all the best as it turns another chapter in the organization's fruitful history. Last time, on the occasion of your 43rd anniversary, I had the pleasure to share with you my thoughts and express my personal appreciation for your invaluable service to our people. Today, as you address the various concerns and issues affecting your membership under a new leadership, we bid you our support for your success in the pursuit of your vision for a more progressive advertising industry.

Beyond capturing the attention and interest of Filipino consumers, the overriding challenge for the new set of officers will be how to maximize advertising for the mutual benefit of our countrymen and our advertisers. May you thus strive to excel in this task in terms of relevant, informative and truthful advertisements that boost sales, spur trade and increase economic activity all over the country. Hard work, dedication and unity will be our continued stance in putting our country to its rightful place among the community of developed nations.

Again, congratulations and more power!

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

MY WARMEST felicitations and congratulations to the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (PANA) on its 1st General Memberhsip Meeting for the year 2002 and Induction of Officers and Board of Directors on Jan. 25, 2002.

Since its establishment in 1958, the PANA has metamorphosed into a potent force in the country's economic progress. I commend this eminent association of distinguished advertisers for its steadfast commitment to the upliftment of the standards and practices of advertising in our country for more than 45 years now.

PANA, formed by advertisers for advertisers, is the only organization in the country that unites the users of advertising. The list of its many achievements includes spearheading the establishment of the Advertising Board of the Philippines, the Audit Council for print media, as well as organizing the Radio Research Council and Television Research Council.

This event will certainly be an opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas and to improve your advertising knowledge and level of professionalism.

I exhort the members of this organization to continue working towards the improvement of national advertising, as this will certainly contribute to the betterment of the nation.

Mabuhay kayong lahat!

TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA, JR.
Vice President
Republic of the Philippines

I CONVEY my warmest felicitations to the officers and members of the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (PANA) as they hold their 1st General Membership Meeting and Induction of Officers and Board of Directors for year 2002 on Jan. 25 this year.

Media plays a crucial role in national development efforts. Advertising as a form of media is one of the most effective means of relaying messages to the public. It goes without saying, then, that many advertisers resort to this form of medium in the hope of capturing specific audience or at most anticipating marketability of products.

In the celebration of your anniversary, may you continue to help the government in its quest for global excellence especially in marketing our local produce through good, positive and innovative advertising.

Congratulations, and *Mabuhay!*

JOSE D. LINA, JR.
Secretary
Department of Interior and Local Government

OUR WARMEST greetings to the officers and members of the Philippine Association of National Advertisers (PANA) as you initiate your 1st General Membership Meeting & Induction of 2002 Officers and Board of Directors on Jan. 25, 2002 at the Maynila Restaurant of the Manila Hotel.

The year 2002 will be a transition year for the Philippine economy as it will bring on tough but nevertheless surmountable challenges. With the global economic situation still in a depressed state, the Philippines must draw on its inner strengths and focus on the domestic economy as the engine for continued growth and economic stability. Our robust domestic demand can see us through this period of challenge as our exports await the rebound of our major trading partners.

Meanwhile, we need to strengthen the sails and outriggers of our economic ship, and steer steadily and strongly in the same direction. We need to exert efforts to fast-track our product and service competitiveness in global markets, and address internal issues which include re-training and upgrading of workers' skills to make the country's competitive advantages sharper still.

It is, therefore, important for all Philippine sectors, including advertising, to put up a brave, daring, self-reliant, forward-looking and resourceful front in conquering the opportunities in the local market this year. With its broad-based membership and collective strength, PANA is at the vantage position to rally its members towards exploring these opportunities and assist government in its efforts to rebuild investor confidence and revitalize prospects for economic recovery. Of critical importance is the need to highlight what is positive, attractive and noteworthy about the country, the Filipino citizenry, and the world-class products and services that we are now capable of generating for both the local and export markets.

To PANA's 2002 officers and board of directors, our sincerest congratulations and best wishes for success. *Mabuhay!*

MAR ROXAS
Secretary
Department of Trade and Industry

Looking forward to another fruitful year through active involvement of members

THE PHILIPPINE Association of National Advertisers (PANA) looks forward to the dawning of another year as this will be the opportune time for the association to assess its accomplishments in the past and the chance to perform much better this year.

THE PANA Marketing Communications Awards is being awarded by PANA annually to colleges and universities that excel in the field of marketing communications. Shown are the University of Sto. Tomas students who won last year with their mentors and PANA directors.

With the new year and the new leadership, PANA will be afresh with new goals and will become the venue for bonding and unity of all its members as they renew their commitment to the association.

The association will seek the active involvement of all its members in all of the projects PANA will undertake this year. Most important is in decision-making in which they will be encouraged to share their opinions especially to sensitive issues that affect the entire industry.

Since its membership comes from varied backgrounds and fields, the association will be tapping their expertise, and relying on its collective strength, to come up with projects that are always relevant to the times—true to its thrust of achieving a better year for the association and for the betterment of consumers and the society in general.

Fruitful years

Now with more than 360 companies as members and spending the equivalent of over 85 percent of the total national advertising expenditure, PANA has grown into a potent force in the country's economic progress and has committed itself to the upliftment of the standards and practices of advertising in the country for more than 45 years now.

PANA spearheaded the establishment of the Advertising Board of the Philippines, the Audit Council for print media, as well as organizing the Radio Research Council and the Television Research Council.

It was the first organization in the industry to adopt the International Code of Advertising Practice and to enforce such code among its members. PANA also undertook the truth in advertising campaign among its members.

PANA also participated and represented the advertisers in the drafting of the rules and regulations on advertising practice worked out by the government and the industry. The same rules have now been adopted as the AdBoard Code of Ethics.

Through the years, PANA has sponsored scholarship programs, workshops and seminars and has assisted educational institutions in the development of curriculum concerning advertising.

And in Nov. 22-24 last year, PANA successfully hosted the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress (PAC) at the Waterfront Hotel, Cebu City, which became the most

LOOKING/E2

Message from the PANA president

WE ARE once again commencing another year, looking forward and rising to greater heights.

The New Year brings fresh feelings of hope and energy that will keep us going throughout the year. For PANA, the dawning of another year opens more avenues for an endless stream of possibilities, a time to keep our minds afresh of the goals and renew our commitments as active members of the association. This is the time when we assess the accomplishments we've done in the past and strive to perform far much better this year.

To spearhead such a dynamic association like PANA is one formidable goal that keeps me inspired. I am proud to lead an association that is as diversified as the products found in the marketplace.

Unity is the unshakable spirit that keeps us together. We have proven the degree of commitment when PANA recently played host in the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress in Cebu City last year. We accomplished a living statement of how our collective efforts, aided by our colleagues and friends from other sectors, achieved success.

PANA will always be a robust community bonded together to serve as strong crucibles of advertisers and communicators.

Today's business environment is fierce, intense, and extreme. This was further heightened by the global crisis brought by the Sept. 11 attacks in New York. As advertisers, we take the foremost responsibility to act as frontliners of our businesses especially in these critical times, communicating our brands through powerful ideas. We stand firm to mobilize the highest potential of our marketing endeavors to keep the industry in top shape. Only by maximizing our resources and strengthening our network will we revitalize business. This is what PANA has always been doing for us over the years.

PANA is committed to pursue varied programs that are always relevant to the times.

This year, let us do greater things again for PANA. Let us continue to affirm our commitment as strong pillars of advertising. Let's work closer towards the fulfillment of various undertakings that we have already started. We must channel all our attention to one common goal, to further enhance PANA's role for the betterment of consumers and society. Most importantly, let us always bond ourselves in the spirit of unity, and speak as one voice that will echo the "Truth in Advertising."

On behalf of the 2002 officers and board of directors and the executive director of the Philippine Association of National Advertisers, we seek your support and participation in our projects.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!

2002 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

CARMINIA B. RODRIGUEZ
President

A.G. ALCANTARA, JR.
Vice President

RAUL S. ALVAREZ
Treasurer

SUSIE ACHACOSO-CRUZ
Secretary

EMILIO L. SAMSON
Auditor

JONES T. CAMPOS
P.R.O.

FORTUNATO D. BABASA
Director

CERGEN D. GO
Director

ANGELICA P. SUIZA
Director

GINA R. VIRTUSIO
Director

DR. NONIE S. AZARCON, DBA
Executive Director

Looking forward to another fruitful year through active involvement . . .

(From page E1)

PANA has successfully hosted the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress (PAC) at the Waterfront Hotel, Cebu City, which became the most successful, most well-attended, and most supported Ad Congress in terms of sponsorships and exhibits to date

successful, most well-attended, and most supported Ad Congress in terms of sponsorships and exhibits to date.

Banner programs

The association will also continue to banner programs that will prepare current as well as future practitioners.

One of these is the post-baccalaureate diploma course in Marketing Communications that PANA through its Education and Research Committee is undertaking with De La Salle University's College of St. Benilde.

The diploma course is a series of certificate courses designed to share the best practices, update the knowledge and enhance the competencies of marketing practitioners. Marketing professionals and experts will facilitate the courses. It is open to all advertising practitioners as well as those who are interested to pursue a career in promotions and its related disciplines.

Another program is the Marketing Excellence Award, also a project of PANA's Education and Research Committee.

This is a school-based program, the primary objective of which is to provide students a more in-depth experience as well as the appreciation of marketing communications. It also aims to introduce the concept and applications of integrated marketing communications among students through an inter-school competition.

PANA will also hand out values awards to advertisements that best exemplify PANA's thrusts in value formation. These awards are to be given monthly and annually.

Chosen as the annual winners for 2001 were PLDT's "Suportahan Ta Ka" and McDonald's "Lolo" television commercials.

ONE OF PANA's thrusts is value formation for all advertisers, like love of God and respect for religious beliefs, love of country and respect for customs and traditions, respect for family, human life and dignity, advocacy to truth, honesty and justice. Respect to authority and promotions and self-discipline and concern for and preservation of the environment. This photo, taken in December when the McDonald's television commercial 'Lolo' was awarded, shows (from left, first row) Gina Virtusio, Dr. Nonie S. Azarcon, Angelica Suiza, McDonald's Joseph Lau and Jojo Samson, and Susie Achacoso-Cruz. From left, second row, are Atoy Babasa, Jun Alcantara and Cergen Go.

These commercials were selected as they best represent the values that PANA adhere to, such as love of God and respect for religious belief, love of country and respect for customs and traditions, respect for family, human life and dignity, advocacy to truth, honesty and justice, respect to authority and promotions and self-discipline and concern for and preservation of the environment.

Basic principles

As PANA looks forward to the challenging times ahead, the association will continue to adhere to its basic principles where it is founded.

The association believes that advertising is an essential factor in the marketing of goods and services and consequently, is an important factor in the economic life of the country.

It also believes that the interests of consumers should be the primary concern of advertisers and in cases of conflict, the interest of the consumers should prevail as well as the belief that public confidence in advertising and advertised goods and services should be promoted and protected, and therefore any practices that tend to undermine the confidence should be prevented or corrected.

Finally, PANA will also hold on to the belief in the upliftment of the standards and practices of advertising.

PANA conducts an annual golf tournament for PANA and AdBoard members every summer. Shown during the last tournament at Punta Baluarte are (from left) Cergen Go, Gigi Rodriguez, August Cruz, Susie Achacoso-Cruz, Nestor Nisperos and Atoy Babasa.

Welcome
PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL ADVERTISERS

THE PANA Pamasko Sa Mga Kapus-Palad Year 8 was a success. The regular beneficiaries were Settlement House of the Fundacion de Damas Filipinas Inc., Elsie Gaches National Center for Retardates and the indigents of Barangay West Rembo in Makati. Photo shows the distribution at West Rembo.

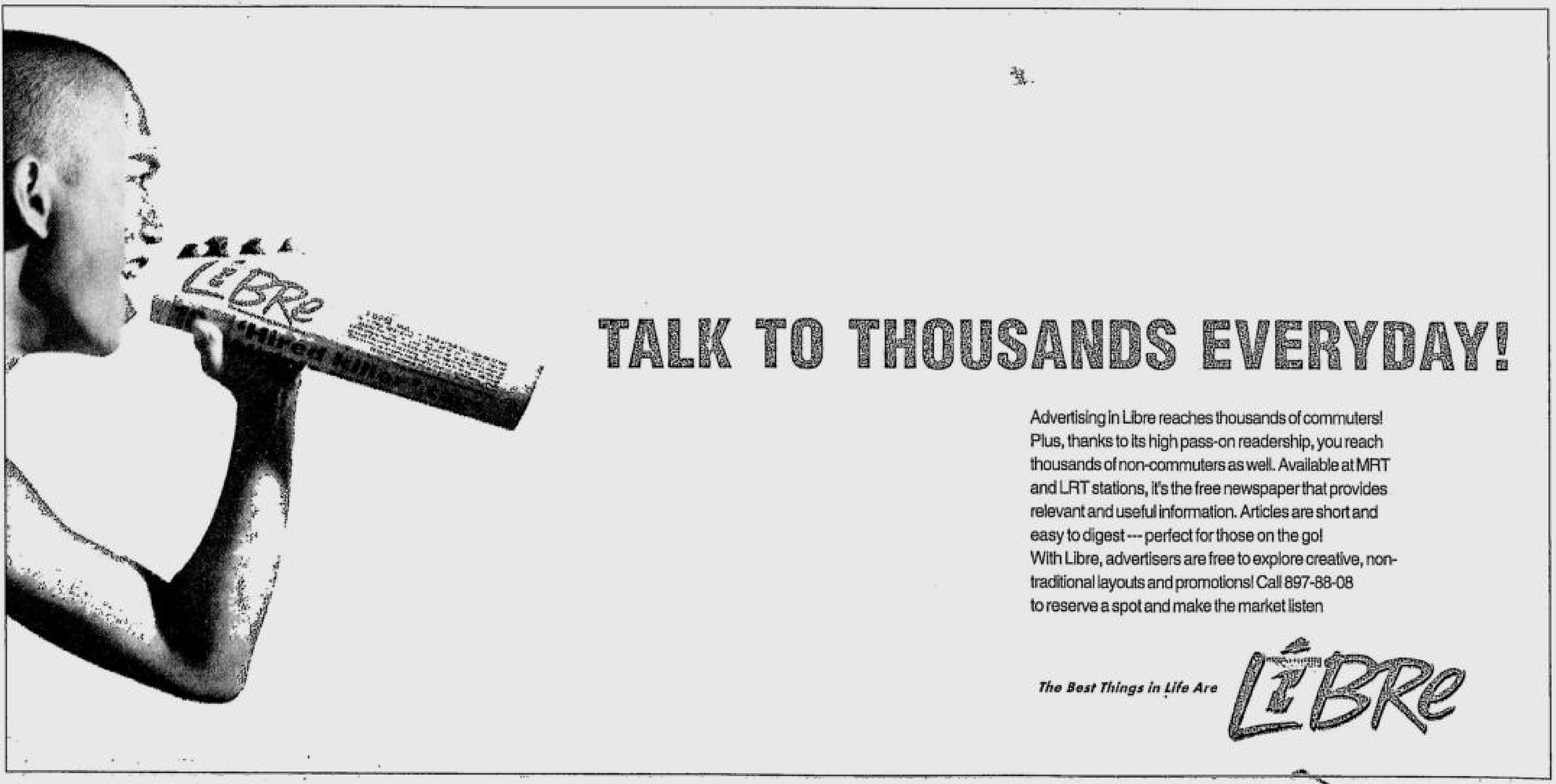
THE 43rd Annual Family Day last year. The event makes every member closer to one another, including their families.

New TIPS
to highlight
bright ideas.
LOTUS
Highlighter

Effectively highlights on most paper.
Available in 4 neon colors: yellow, orange, pink and green.

AMSPEC
AMALGAMATED SPECIALTIES CORPORATION
Visit us at www.amspecial.com

Member:
PANA
Official Writing Instruments



TALK TO THOUSANDS EVERYDAY!

Advertising in Libre reaches thousands of commuters! Plus, thanks to its high pass-on readership, you reach thousands of non-commuters as well. Available at MRT and LRT stations, it's the free newspaper that provides relevant and useful information. Articles are short and easy to digest --- perfect for those on the go!
With Libre, advertisers are free to explore creative, non-traditional layouts and promotions! Call 897-88-08 to reserve a spot and make the market listen

The Best Things in Life Are LiBRe

PANA, successful host of the 17th PAC

THE PHILIPPINE Association of National Advertisers was the official host of the 17th Philippine Advertising Congress held last Nov. 21 to 24, 2001 at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City. Considered an important event in the advertising and marketing calendar, the biennial gathering attracted more than 2,500 delegates coming from a vibrant mix of backgrounds, including advertising agencies, academe, sales and marketing and media. The 17th PAC, with its official theme "Target: Market, Asintado sa Pinoy Ngayon", focused on the principles of niche marketing, a worldwide marketing trend now adopted by marketers across the globe.

The congress opened with the parade of colors of the AdBoard's nine-member organizations, followed by the members of the 17th PAC executive committee overall chair Noy Dy-Licco of Nestlé Philippines; overall vice chair Angge Suiza of Penshoppe; administrative committee chair Blen Fernando of Alaska Milk Corp.; creative committee chair Abby Jimenez of Jimenez D'Arcy; finance committee chair Jun Alcantara of Asia Brewery Inc.; program committee chair Minyong Ordoñez of Basic Advertising Inc.; PR and publicity committee chair Bobby Barreiro of GMA-7; protocol committee chair Linda Gamboa of the Advertising Foundation of the Philippines; the board of directors of the Advertising Board of the Philippines, headed by Susan Dimacali of McCann-Erickson, and keynote speaker Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala.

PANA, as host of the successful 17th Philippine Advertising Congress at the Waterfront Hotel, Cebu City, turns over a symbolic narra and brass bow and arrow to the next host, the media sector (KBP, UPMG, OAAP, CAAP and IBA) during the closing ceremonies. From left are Jojo Samson, Cergen Go, Sandra Garcia, Gigi Rodriguez, Jun Alcantara, Susie Achacoso-Cruz, Angelica Suiza, Paciencia Pineda, Nonie S. Azarcon, Atoy Babasa, Lito Yabut, Jose Sy and Virra Arceo.

ALSO seen at the 17th PAC are (from left) Jun Alcantara, Susie Achacoso-Cruz, resource speaker Paul Temporal, Angelica Suiza and Gigi Rodriguez.

Recognizing the key role of advertising in raising the level of national performance, Zobel de Ayala stressed three key points on how to weather through the economic letdown and other tragic events besetting the nation. He encouraged all delegates to "harness our creative potential to the fullest; pursue national competitiveness; and, improve our national image to the world." These points, he believes, will be greatly rewarding to our country and our people.

Margarita V. Osmeña, speaking on behalf of Cebu City Mayor Honorable Tommy Osmeña, gladly welcomed all delegates and encouraged them to help our country dream big dreams and make it a better place for our children.

AdBoard chair Susan Dimacali of McCann-Erickson Philippines relayed that amidst the global and local horrors, we remained optimistic and refused to be defeated. The gathering of people in the congress inspired everyone to renew their commitment to the industry and country. "No other venue fosters unity better than the biennial congress," she said.

17th PAC executive committee chair Noy Dy-Liacco wheeled in a fishball cart as he bounded onto the stage. The Nestlé executive raised everyone's spirits when he said that indeed "we can make a difference." He encouraged everyone to continuously excel in where we're good at—advertise our respective brands, improve the delivery of the advertising messages, sharpen the media channels, and sustain the competitive spirit rather than dampen entrepreneurship because of bad news. His remarks led to the unveiling of the congress theme. The theme is all about one thing: to delight the consumer. He told everyone to maintain a never-ending love affair with the consumer. Otherwise, the

PANA/E4

TARGET:MARKET
sintado sa Pino yon

PANA hosted the successful and record-breaking 17th Philippine Advertising Congress at the Waterfront Hotel, Cebu City. Shown during the awarding of the token of appreciation are (from left) Dr. Nonie S. Azarcon, Bobby Banaag, Jun Alcantara, Gigi Rodriguez, resource speaker Tim Tyler, Susie Achacoso-Cruz and Cesar Jesena.

A member of citigroup

It's not just a Credit Card

BUY THIS
GET THIS

Citibank Clear MasterCard

APPLY NOW!
Call 995-9999 or apply at
www.citibank.com.ph

It's getting Starbucks coffee one size bigger, at no extra cost!

Introducing, a most exclusive offer from the 2 names that blend perfectly together - Citibank Clear MasterCard & Starbucks **UPSIZE Special.**

Whenever you use your Citibank Clear MasterCard at Starbucks, your coffee becomes one size bigger than what you actually pay for! Pay for a short, you get a tall; pay for a tall, you get a grande; and pay for a grande and we'll give you a venti! At no extra cost. So get started on this cool deal today.

Promo period is from November 23, 2001 to May 23, 2002.

Per DTI-NCR permit No. 1811, Series of 2001

CITIBANK

PANA, successful host of the 17th PAC

(From page E3)

competition would just be too happy to take over the courtship.

One star-studded highlight of the event was the staging of "Ungol! Sigaw Ng Mga Walang Tinig," a grand musical production designed by the same outfit that staged Miss Saigon. A collaboration of Jimmy Santiago of TBWA/SMP, the librettist of the play, and Gary Granada, who composed the songs, "Ungol!" summarizes the deplorable conditions of our poor countrymen and the struggles they wage against the strongholds of poverty. The empty promises of government officials who continue to deceive them, the unheard groans of the underprivileged in Edsa, and the profound afflictions of what professor Randy David calls the "hidden injuries of the poor" inspired Santiago to write the play. The production was so overwhelming that it moved the audience to tears. The play starred Robert Seña, Jenine Desiderio, Jeffrey Hidalgo, Jeff Arcilla and other notable thespians.

The trade exhibit, with 52 exhibitors participating, was inaugurated immediately at the exhibition hall right beside the grand ballroom. The fair exhibited the latest line of products and services, and had its exhibitors giving away a plethora of freebies and exciting prizes to all those who visited the exhibitors' booths. Multimedia Exponents won the best booth.

The congress also brought out the athlete in every delegate by offering various sports activities like golf at the fairways of the panoramic Alta Vista Club; beach volleyball at the Plaza Club of Cebu Plaza Hotel; bowling and billiards at the Ayala Center; and 5K fun run at Osmeña Boulevard. PANA won the top prize in the golf competition.

One of the congress' special highlights was the Communication Arts Forum at Cebu Plaza Hotel on Nov. 24. For four hours, students and teachers had fun learning the actual advertising environment with the industry's top advertising creative directors: Raul Castro of Lowe Lintas, Micky Domingo of McCann-Erickson, and Tere Filipinia of Basic Advertising Inc.

Gastronomic feasts

The three-day congress sessions were spiced up by breakfast, lunch and dinner sponsors who each provided versions of gimmicks, giveaways and raffle prizes. Wild on Cebu, a welcome dinner-cum-party hosted by RMN and Sun Star, was a lavish feast of food and fun at the Plaza Club of the sprawling Cebu Plaza Hotel. Top impersonators Tessie Tomas and Jon Santos made everyone reel with laughter as they mimicked popular personalities like Kris Aquino, Imelda Marcos, GMA and deposed President Erap Estrada, back-to-back with the APO Hiking Society, during lunch coupled with entertainment courtesy of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. Viva TV filled the exhibition hall to the rafters when it brought the country's no. 1 game show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," hosted by Christopher de Leon. On the second day, three big parties were staged by dinner sponsor ABS CBN, who brought the wacky Whattamen, The Hunks and some ABS CBN personalities; Philippine Star at Ayala Center Cebu; and Studio 23 at The Village, Cebu's own version of Manila's The Fort. Manila Bulletin raffled off a brand new car and house and lot as first and second prizes. GMA-7, whose prizes consisted a whopping P1 million and seven Rolex watches, capped the congress event by hosting the last session's dinner event and covering the much awaited 17th PAC Araw Awards Night, which drew 4,000 advertising creatives and practitioners to fly to Cebu to see their peers win the top prizes. The night was teeming with food and refreshments that lasted until two in the morning.

pana
TRUTH IN ADVERTISING

Another GMA

Her Excellency President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo graced the congress on the last day, seen as early as 8 a.m. at the lobby of the hotel. Speaking before the delegates with ease, eloquence and candor, she encouraged all advertisers to help the Arroyo government and the country, especially during these times of uncertainty. She was applauded with the $19 million she recently received from US President George Bush as support for the country's military operations.

Turnover ceremony

Like a beauty queen who had to end her reign and bequeath her crown to her successor, this year's host had to pass its crown to the next host. Exhilarated by the humongous success of the 17th Ad Congress, PANA handed the mantle of congress leadership to its successor—the Media (United Print Media Group, OAAP, CAAP, KBP, and IBP), the host of the 18th Philippine Advertising Congress in 2003. A bow and arrow, which symbolizes the current congress theme, was turned over by PANA president Angelica Suiza of Golden ABC Inc. to Print Media Group president Paciencia Pineda, EVP for advertising of the Manila Bulletin. Witnessing the turnover event were PANA officers Jojo Samson of McDonald's, Cergen Go of Swedish Match, Sandra Garcia of Dusit Hotel, Gigi Rodriguez of Citibank NA, Jun Alcantara of Asia Brewery Inc., Susie Achacoso-Cruz of Godiva, PANA executive director Dr. Nonie Azarcon, Atoy Babasa of Andresons, Lito Yabut, AdBoard's Jose Sy, and Virra Arceo.

National Book Store holds first-ever office fair

AS A NEW year's resolution, National Book Store promises more exciting and grand ways to celebrate with you this 2002.

We're starting the year with a bang with the first ever NBS Office Fair.

From Jan. 15 to 31, make your way to National Book Store and start stocking up for all your school and office needs. From binders to pencils to calculators and even all kinds of paper, the NBS Office Fair has what you need.

Plus, get a free NBS tote—handy to put everything you've shopped for—with every P500 purchase of any of the participating products in the Office Fair. Participating products will be marked with a National Book Store sticker so you simply can't miss it.

So get your supplies and your free totes now! Be part of the first ever NBS Office Fair from Jan. 15 to 31.

GET READY FOR A WHOLE NEW LOOK!

uila fratmen off the hook in Villa slay
PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
Tom-can
ty Hall
MAGALLON
E. FERNANDEZ
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
GMA confirms

From January 25 onwards, you'll be seeing a new Inquirer. With sleek fonts and slender columns in a new trim size. Handier, easy to read, hard-hitting as ever—and for advertisers, lots of ad space to catch the eye of over 2 million readers! So from now on, make sure yours are made over for our new ad specs.

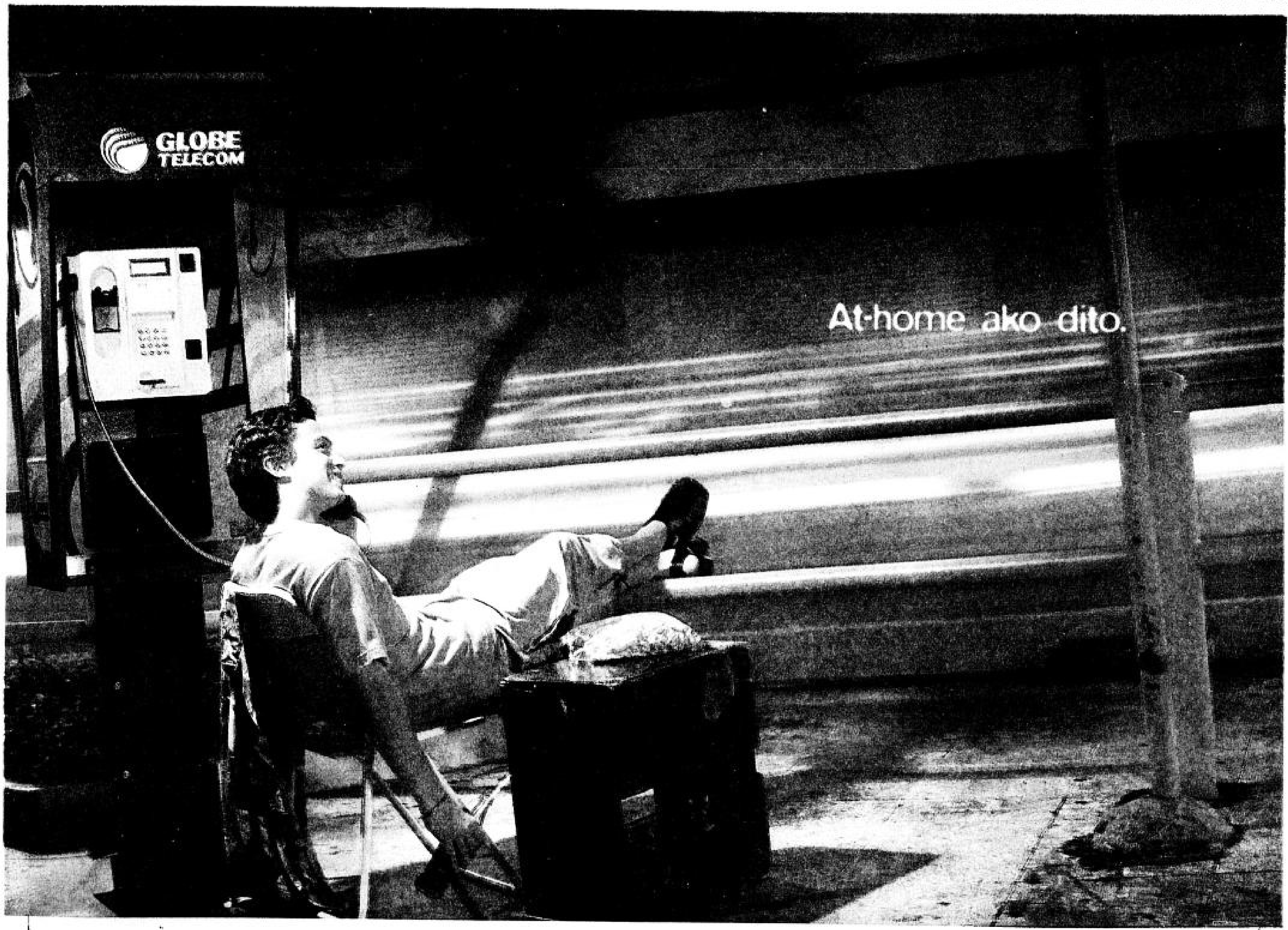
FOR DETAILS
CALL 897-8808
ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT
Look for Pepito Olarte or Kenny Nuyda

PROGRAM

INVOCATION	**Susie Achacoso-Cruz** Godiva, Inc.
NATIONAL ANTHEM	**Donna E. Canafranca** Burger Machine Holdings Corporation
ANNOUNCEMENTS (early bird winners, birthday celebrants, acknowledgments of sponsors/guests, etc.)	**Dr. Nonie S. Azarcon** PANA Executive Director
ENTERTAINMENT NUMBERS	
MANILA BULLETIN PRESENTATION	**Pat M. Pineda** EVP-Advertsing Manila Bulletin
PRESENTATION OF TOKEN/ PLAQUE TO SPONSOR	**PANA Board of Directors**
INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER	**Jones T. Campos** PANA P.R.O. Globe Telecom
SPEECH OF GUEST SPEAKER	**Hon. Joey D. Lina** Secretary Dept. of Interior & Local Government (DILG)
INDUCTION OF 2002 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS	**Hon. Joey D. Lina**
PRESENTATION OF TOKEN GIFTS TO THE GUEST SPEAKER & INDUCTING OFFICER	**PANA Board of Directors**
ADDRESS OF INCOMING PRESIDENT	**Gigi B. Rodriguez** 2002 PANA President Citibank, N.A.
INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS	**Gigi B. Rodriguez** 2002 PANA President Citibank, N.A.
PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL/ SERVICE AWARDS	
PANA VALUES AWARD	**PANA Board of Directors**
ADJOURNMENT	

Jay Sonza & Lora Lee F. Reboton
Emcees

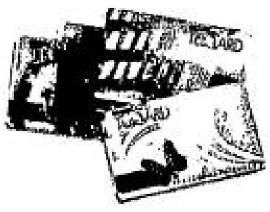
Nestlé
Good Food, Good Life™
www.nestle.com.ph

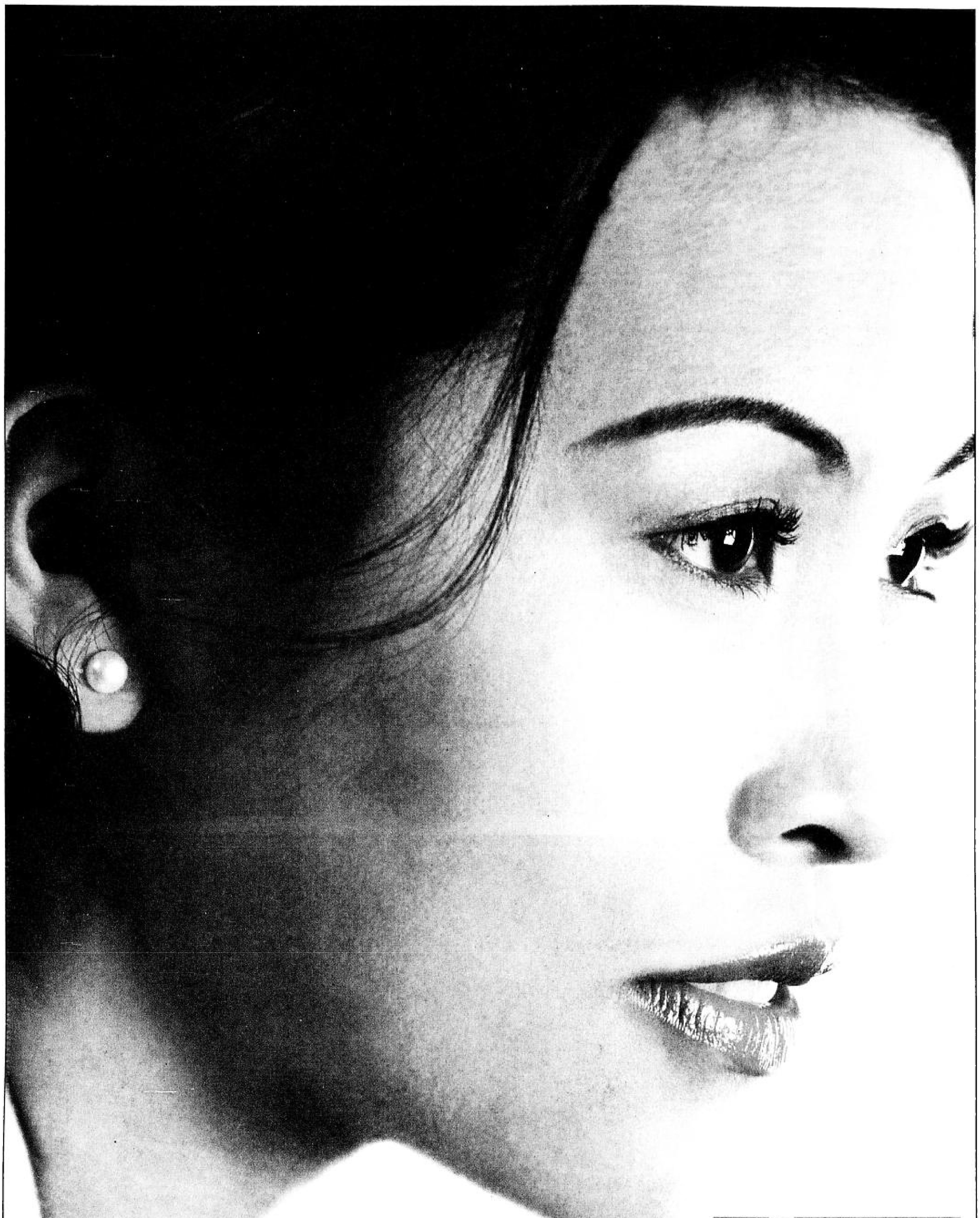


Sa Globe Telcard, tuluy-tuloy ang kuwentuhan dahil mura ang local calls -- P1.50 lang sa first two minutes at P0.50 sa bawat succeeding minute. Tipid din sa long-distance calls -- P4.50/min lang ang NDD at $0.40/min ang IDD. Okey pa ang tawag sa cellphone dahil P12.50/min lang. At ngayon pwede na ring mag-text gamit ang payphone with 1-900-TXT (1-900-898). P2.00 lang per message. Kaya basta't may Globe Telcard, ayos na ayos ang kuwentuhan -- kahit pa magdamagan.

GLOBE TELCARD
Your pocket-friendly payphone card.
(02)746-5386 www.globe.com.ph

Use your Globe Telcard and enjoy **1-900-TXT** in more than 6,500 Globe Payphones in Makati, Mandaluyong, San Juan, Pasig, Marikina, Cavite, Batangas, Mindoro, Palawan, Mindanao and **now in CEBU.**





sunday
INQUIRER
magazine

Chameleon of Song

All the News All this Time

CONTENTS

NOW, LARGER THAN LIFE.

Grander images, greater stories and bigger personalities in the broadsheet format.

Effective February 3, 2002

PANA MEMBERS

- ABBOTT LABORATORIES PHILS.
- ABENSON, INC.
- ABN AMRO SAVINGS BANK
- ACE FOODS, INC.
- ACS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
- ADP INDUSTRIES CORPORATION
- AGRIBRANDS PURINA
- AGUA VIDA SYSTEMS, INC.
- AIRFREIGHT 21000, INC.
- ALASKA MILK CORPORATION
- ALCATEL PHILIPPINES, INC.
- ALEN INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CORP.
- ALLIED DOMECQ PHILIPPINES, INC.
- ALTERNATIVE BEVERAGES CO., INC.
- AMA GROUP OF COMPANIES
- AMALGAMATED SPECIALTIES CORP.
- AMERICAN EXPRESS INT'L., INC.
- AMERICAN STANDARD /SANITARY WARES MFG. CORP.
- AMTRUST LEISURE CORPORATION
- ANSON'S GROUP OF COMPANIES
- ARCON GROUP HOLDINGS (DAYS HOTEL)
- ASCOP, INC.
- ASIA BREWERY, INC.
- ASIATRUST BANK
- AVESCO MARKETING CORPORATION
- AVON COSMETICS, INC.
- AYALA CORPORATION
- AYALA LAND, INC.
- AYALA LIFE ASSURANCE, INC.
- BAGUMBUHAY INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION
- BAN KEE TRADING, INC.
- BANK OF COMMERCE
- BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
- BPI FAMILY BANK
- BASIC CLOTHING INT'L. MFTG. (COLOURS)
- BAYER PHILIPPINES, INC.
- BENPRES HOLDINGS CORPORATION
- BIG "E" FOODS CORPORATION
- BOEHRINGER-INGELHEIM PHILIPPINES, INC.
- BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB (PHIL.), INC.
- BRITISH AIRWAYS
- BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO PHILIPPINES
- BURGER MACHINE HOLDINGS CORPORATION
- BURLINGTON INDUSTRIES PHILS., INC.
- CABLE TECHNOLOGY ASIA CORP. (STAR TV)
- CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
- CANON MARKETING (PHILIPPINES), INC.
- CASTROL PHILIPPINES
- CEBU PACIFIC AIR
- CENTURY CANNING CORPORATION
- CHANEL MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
- CHINA BANKING CORPORATION
- CHOWKING FOOD CORPORATION
- CITIBANK, N.A.
- CITIBEDS
- CLOROX INTERNATIONAL PHILS., INC.
- CMG LIFE INSURANCE CO.' INC
- CMTC INTERNATIONAL MARKETING CORP.
- COCA-COLA EXPORT CORPORATION
- COLGATE-PALMOLIVE PHILS., INC.
- COLLEGE ASSURANCE PLAN PHILS., INC.
- COLLINS INTERNATIONAL TRADING CORP.
- COLOMBIAN AUTOCAR CORPORATION
- COMMONWEALTH FOODS, INC.
- CONCEPCION CARRIER AIRCONDITIONING CO.
- CONTINENTAL AIRLINES
- COSMOS BOTTLING CORPORATION
- CROSSING DEPARTMENT STORE
- DAIKIN-ALEN AIRCONDITIONING, INC.
- DEL MONTE PHILIPPINES, INC.
- DHL PHILIPPINES, CORPORATION
- DIAMOND LABORATORIES, INC.
- DIMSUM N' DUMPLINGS
- DIRECT LINK INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
- DIRECTORIES PHILS. CORPORATION (GTE)
- DKT PHILIPPINES, INC.
- DUSIT HOTEL NIKKO MANILA
- DUTCH BOY PHILIPPINES, INC.
- EASTERN TELECOMS PHILS., INC.
- EASTWEST BANK
- EASYCALL COMMUNICATIONS PHILS., INC.
- ECCO FOOD CORPORATION
- EDSAMAIL ASIA PTE LTD.
- EINSCO CO., INC.
- ELECTRO GROUP, INC.
- EMPIRE EAST LAND HOLDINGS, INC.
- ENERGIZER PHILIPPINES, INC.
- ENERGY FOOD & DRINKS, INC.
- EQUITABLE CARDNETWORK, INC.
- EQUITABLE PCI BANK
- ERICSSON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.
- EVER EMPORIUM
- EXCELLENCE APPLIANCE TECHNOLOGIES
- EXPRESS TELEGOMS CO., INC. (EXTELCOM)
- FABRIANO S.P.A., INC.
- FEDERAL HOMES, INC.
- FESTIVAL SUPERMALL, INC.
- FIL-PACIFIC APPAREL CORP. (JAG JEANS)
- FILCON MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
- FIRST CHOICE FOOD CORPORATION
- FIRST e-BANK
- FOCUS GLOBAL, INC.
- FOODFEST, INC. (MISTER DONUT)
- FOOD INDUSTRIES, INC.
- FORD MOTOR COMPANY PHILIPPINES, INC.
- FORT BONIFACIO DEVT. CORPORATION
- FORTUNE TOBACCO CORPORATION
- FUJITSU PHILIPPINES, INC.
- FRIGATE HOLDINGS MONT. CORP. (RACKS)
- GENERAL GARMENTS CORPORATION
- GENERAL MILLING CORPORATION
- GERMED PHARMA CORPORATION
- GETZ BROS. PHILIPPINES, INC.
- GIFT GATE, INC.
- GILLETTE PHILIPPINES, INC.
- GLAXO SMITHKLINE
- GLOBAL BANK
- GLOBAL BRANDS
- GLOBE TELECOM
- GODIVA, INC.
- GOLDEN ABC, INC. (PENSHOPPE)
- GOLDEN DONUTS, INC. (DUNKIN DONUTS)
- GOLDILOCKS BAKESHOPS, INC.
- GOODYEAR PHILIPPINES, INC.
- GREAT PACIFIC LIFE ASSURANCE CORP.
- GTVL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, INC.
- HAGEMEYER PHILIPPINES, INC.
- HEALTHNET INTERNATIONAL, INC.
- HEALTHY OPTIONS
- HOLIDAY INN MANILA
- HOME DEVT. MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG)
- HONDA PHILIPPINES, INC.
- HYATT REGENCY MANILA
- IBM PHILIPPINES, INC.
- INBISCO PHILIPPINES, INC.
- INT'L. CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS (ICS)
- INT'L. DISTILLERS PHILS., INC.
- INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SPECIALISTS
- INT'L. FAMILY FOOD SERVICES, INC. (SHAKEYS)
- INT'L. PHARMACEUTICAL, INC.
- ISLAND BISCUITS, INC.
- JAMES HARDIE PHILIPPINES, INC.
- JG SUMMIT HOLDING, INC. /URC
- JDH-ZUELLIG (FORMERLY ZUELLIG INCHCAPE)
- JOHN HANCOCK LIFE INSURANCE
- JOHNSON & JOHNSON PHILIPPINES
- JOLLIBEE FOODS CORPORATION
- KIMBERLY-CLARK PHILIPPINES, INC.
- KODAK PHILIPPINES LTD.
- KOLIN PHILIPPINES INT'L., INC.
- KRAFT FOODS PHILIPPINES, INC.
- KUBOTA AGRI-MACHINERY PHILS., INC.
- LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
- LA TONDENA DISTILLERS, INC.
- LESLIE CORPORATION
- LEVI STRAUSS PHILS., INC.II
- LIBERTY COMMODITIES CORPORATION
- LINEA ITALIA GROUP
- LKG INVESTMENT & FINANCE CORP.(LKG GROUP)
- LOUIS MACLEAN FAR EAST, INC.
- LOYOLA PLANS, INC.
- LUCERNE JEWELERS
- LYRIC PIANO & ORGAN CORPORATION
- MACONDRAY & CO., INC.
- MANDARIN ORIENTAL MANILA
- MANILA MIDTOWN HOTELS & LAND CORP.
- MANSFIELD INTERNATIONAL, INC.
- MARIE-FRANCE BODYLINE INT'L., INC.
- MAX'S, INC.
- MCDONALDS PHILIPPINES
- MERCURY DRUG CORPORATION
- METCHEM INDUSTRIAL, INC.
- METRO PHARMA PHILIPPINES, INC.
- METROPOLITAN BANK & TRUST COMPANY
- MGME MARKETING CORPORATION
- MILADAY GROUP OF COMPANIES
- MITSUBISHI MOTORS PHILIPPINES CORP.
- MOBIL PHILIPPINES, INC.
- MOBILE DISTRIBUTION, INC.
- MOLDEX GROUP OF COMPANIES
- MONDE DENMARK NISSIN BISCUIT CORP.
- MONTEREY FOODS CORPORATION
- MOTOROLA COMMUNICATIONS PHILS., INC.
- MSI-DIGILAND (PHILS.), INC.
- MYRA PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.
- NATIONAL BOOKSTORE, INC.
- NATIONAL PANASONIC SALES PHILS. (DIV. OF MEPCO)
- NESTLÉ PHILIPPINES, INC.
- NEWTRENDS INT'L. CORPORATION
- NEW ZEALAND MILK PRODUCTS, PHILS., INC.
- NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS PHILS., INC.
- NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE CO. OF THE PHILS. 193. NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC.
- NOKIA PHILIPPINES, INC.
- NOVARTIS CONSUMER HEALTH PHILS., INC. 196. NUGGET FOOD CORPORATION
- NUTRIASIA
- ORIENTAL & MOTOLITE CORPORATION 199. OTT LOUIE PHILS., INC.
- PASCUAL LABORATORIES, INC.
- PEPSICO, INC. (PHIL. BRANCH)
- PERFUMERIA ESPANOLA CORPORATION
- PETRON CORPORATION
- PFIZER, INC.
- PHILIP MORRIS PHILIPPINES, INC.
- PHILIPPINE AIRLINES, INC.
- PHILIPPINE AXA LIFE INSURANCE CORP.
- PHILIPPINE DAIRY PRODUCTS CORP.
- PHILIPPINE FUJ I XEROX
- PHIL. HEALTH FOOD CENTER, INC.
- PHIL.LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANY
- PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK
- PHILIPPINE PIZZA, INC.
- PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
- PHILIPPINE SEVEN CORPORATION
- PHILIPS CONSUMER ELECTRONICS
- PHILUSA CORPORATION
- PHOTOKINA MARKETING CORPORATION
- PILIPINAS SHELL PETROLEUM CORP.
- PLANTERS DEVELOPMENT BANK
- PRIMEWORLD DIGITAL SYSTEMS, INC.
- PROCTER & GAMBLE DISTRIBUTING PHILS., INC.
- PROGRESSIVE DEVT. CORP. (ARANETA GROUP)
- PRU LIFE INSURANCE OF U.K.
- PUNTA BALUARTE RESORT
- QUAKER OATS ASIA, INC. (PHIL. BRANCH)
- QUANTUM FOODS, INC. (DOLE)
- QUICK SERVICE RESTAURANTS (KENTUCKY)
- RECKITT BENCKISER (PHILS.), INC.
- REGENT FOOD CORPORATION
- REPUBLIC BISCUIT CORP. (REBISCO GROUP)
- REPUBLIC CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, INC.
- REYNOLDS TRADING & MARKETING CORP.
- RICHWELL TRADING CORPORATION
- RICOH (PHILIPPINES), INC.
- RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
- ROBINSONS, INC. (ROBINSONS DEPT. STORE)
- ROCHE (PHILS.), INC.
- ROGEMSON ENTERPRISES (The Rogemson Co.)
- REJSTAN MARKETING CORPORATION
- SALEM OCEANIC INDUSTRIES CORP.
- SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS PHILS., CORP.
- SAN MIGUEL BREWING GROUP
- SAN MIGUEL FOODS, INC.
- SANOFI-SYNTHELABO PHILIPPINES
- SANYO (PHILS.), INC.
- SARA LEE PHILIPPINES, INC.
- SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION
- SCA HYGIENCE PRODUCTS CORPORATION
- S.C. JOHNSON & SON, INC.
- SECURITY BANK CORPORATION
- SECURITY DINERS INTERNATIONAL CORP.
- SHANGRI-LA PLAZA CORPORATION
- SHARP (PHILS.), CORP.
- SHOPPING CENTER MANAGEMENT CORP. (SCMC)
- SIAM MARIWASA TOTO, INC.
- SIEMENS, INC.
- SLIMMERS WORLD INTERNATIONAL
- SM, INC.
- SMART COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
- SMARTY TOYS CORPORATION
- SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
- SONY PHILIPPINES, INC.
- SPLASH CORPORATION
- STA. LUCIA EAST GRAND MALL
- STANDARD CHARTERED BANK
- STERLING PAPER PRODUCTS ENT., INC.
- STIEFEL PHILIPPINES, INC.
- SUGARLAND BEVERAGE CORP.
- SUNLIFE ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA
- SUPER MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
- SUY SING COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
- SUYEN CORPORATION
- SWEDISH MATCH PHILIPPINES, INC.
- SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (STI)
- SYSU INTERNATIONAL, INC.
- TAISHO PHARMA (PHILS.) INC.
- TECNOGAS PHILIPPINES MFTG. CORP.
- THE ANDRESONS GROUP, INC.
- THE BOOTS CO. (PHILS.) INC.
- THE HERITAGE HOTEL MANILA
- THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORP.
- THE INSULAR LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
- THE LANDMARK CORPORATION
- THE PENINSULA MANILA
- THE PHIL. AMERICAN LIFE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY (PHILAMLIFE)
- THE PUREFOODS -HORMEL COMPANY
- THE TRIPLE V GROUP
- THE WESTIN PHILIPPINE PLAZA
- TOTAL PETROLEUM PHILIPPINES CORP.
- TOURIST TRADE & TRAVEL CORPORATION
- TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES, CORP.
- TRANSUNION CORP. (FEDERAL ELECTRIC)
- TRI-UNION INTERNATIONAL CORP. (CO. B)
- TRICOM DYNAMICS, INC.
- TUPPERWARE PHILIPPINES
- TVP DENTAL B CORPORATION
- T.W. AND COMPANY (S &T ENTERPRISES)
- UNI-AIR PHILIPPINES, INC.
- UNIBANCARD CORPORATION
- UNILEVER PHILIPPINES,(PRC) INC.
- UNION AJINOMOTO PHILIPPINES
- UNION BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES
- UNITED INT'L. PICTURES, INC.
- UNITED LABORATORIES, INC. (UNILAB)
- UNITED OVERSEAS BANK PHILIPPINES
- UNI-TRADE MERCHANDISING
- UNIVET AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, INC.
- UNIWIDE SALES GROUP OF COMPANIES
- VAN MELLE (PHILS.), INC.
- VBP GROUP OF COMPANIES
- VIBELLE MFTG. CORP. & ORIANA MFTG. CO., INC.
- VIVA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
- WARNER-LAMBERT PHILIPPINES, INC.
- WARREN MANUFACTURING CORP.
- WENPHIL CORPORATION (WENDY'S)
- WESTERN MARKETING CORPORATION
- WHITEHALL PHILS. (Division of Wyeth Phils.)
- WILLIAM, GOTHONG & ABOITIZ, INC.
- WRIGLEY PHILIPPINES, INC.
- WYETH PHILIPPINES, INC.
- YAKULT PHILIPPINES, INC.
- ZENCO SALES, INC.
- ZEST-D CORPORATION (SEMEXCO)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS (UNDER PROBATION):

- ASIAN HOSPITAL, INC.
- CALTEX PHILIPPINES, INC.
- CAMPBELL SOUP ASIA LIMITED
- COLUMBIA PICTURES INDUSTRIES, INC.
- COMPAQ COMPUTER PHILIPPINES
- DUMEX PHILIPPINES, INC.
- EVERGOOD UNLIMITED CORPORATION
- FIRST ASIA MOBILE, INC.
- GANDOUR PHILIPPINES, INC.
- GENERAL MOTORS AUTOMOBILES PHILS., INC.
- GREENWICH PIZZA CORPORATION
- HONDA CARS PHILIPPINES, INC.
- INTEL MICROELECTRONICS
- JARDINE DAVIES, INC. (AGCHEM)
- J-SING BROS., INC.
- LG COLLINS ELECTRONICS MANILA
- MANUELA CORPORATION
- MASTERCARD INT'L. PHILS., INC.
- MAVERICK FILMS
- MINDGATE SYSTEMS, INC.
- MONDEX PHILIPPINES, INC.
- NIKE PHILIPPINES, INC.
- PACIFIC PLANS, INC.
- PHILAM PLANS, INC.
- 7RD REALTY, INC.
- RIVERS OF LIFE PROPERTY & DEVT. CORP.
- TRIUMPH INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES, INC.

No more dirty ads.

CM K "DELISH" PRNT AD:FA2 7/23/00 5:35 AM

Don't let a little dirt ruin a great idea. With Lexmedia's Digital Ad Delivery Service, you can send your ads in digital form directly to the newspaper. No dust, no scratches. No physical handling. Your ads stay clean, the colors vibrant. Beautiful. With Lexmedia, there's nothing dirty about your ads.

Lexmedia DIGITAL

Office: Garden Level, Corinthian Plaza, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1200, Philippines • Tel. no.: 811.33.83 • Fax no.: 892.49.66 • E-mail: info@lexmediadigital.ph

THE FIRST-EVER National Book Store OFFICE FAIR

HURRY! From January 15 to 31, 2002 only!

Get a FREE NBS tote with every P500.00 purchase of any of these participating products!*

National Book Store
tricon
maxell
EPSON
ARCO
FILEX
APLI
morning glory
BINDERMAX
AURORA
Seagull
EVERNEW
Aspen
PANDA
JVJ Print ShoP
VALIANT
INOXCROM
LABELON
TAJIMA
Armak
Esquire
HOT MELT
BEST BUY
File Folder
SP
CRK
CASIO
uni
LEITZ
BE HOLY
TOYO

HERE'S HOW TO GET YOUR FREE BAG(S):

(1) Simply present your tape receipt(s) marked with VALID FOR PROMO to the Customer Service Counter. (2) Your receipt must be dated from January 15 to January 31, 2002 only. (3) Single or accumulated receipts from any NBS branch will be accepted. (4) Receipts are valid for redemption only once. (5) Your receipt(s) must include purchases from these participating brands only:

Tricon Hi-white, Maxell Diskettes, Epson Ink Cartridges, Arco, Filex, Apli, Morning Glory, Bindermax, Aurora Calculators, Seagull, Evernew, Aspen, Panda, JVJ Print Shop, Valiant, Inoxcrom, Labelon, Tajima, Armak, Best Buy Hotmelt Sticks, Esquire, Security Paper, CRK, Casio, Uni Writing Instruments, Crocodile, Leitz, Be Holy, Toyo, SDI Staplers and Staple Removers, Red Carpet Carbon Paper, Globe Carbon Paper, Greenbelt Carbon Paper, Blue Jacket Carbon Paper, Globiana Carbon Paper, Red Feather Carbon Paper, Blue Diamond Carbon Paper, President Carbon Paper, Pyramid Whiteboard, New World Index Cards, NJR Organizers, Pritt Products, Sentry, National Labels, Pilot Pens, Nabel Bags, Cattleya, King Clearbooks and Incas Carbon Paper.

(6) Wholesale or discounted items are not included in this promo. (7) Redemption period is until 60 days from end of promo period. (8) All employees of National Book Store and Abacus Card Corp., Blue Bottle, Inc., and Buensalido & Associates up to second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining this promotion.

*All participating products will carry the NBS stickers on their packaging.

National
Book Store
www.nationalbookstore.com
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2107, Series of 2002